The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, MAY 26, 1892.

The Week.

THE Democratic conventions of May 18 swept away the last traces of the forlorn Hill movement. We doubt if even Hill himself is able to regard his candidacy as being any longer alive. Even Georgia, where there has been for two years a systematic and persistent effort on foot to work up sentiment in his favor, elected a solid Cleveland delegation to Chicago. The editor of the Atlanta *Constitution*, the most devoted Hill organ that the country has had, was defeated as a delegate, and the editor of the Atlanta *Journal*, a Cleveland paper which has grown to power and prosperity in the State by opposing the Hill organ, of course, was elected in preference. Georgia was the objective point of Hill's Southern tour, and if he has not a following there, he has none in any part of the country. The California Democratic Convention, which showed signs of a Hill sentiment on the 17th, developed an irresistible Cleveland sentiment the next day and selected a Cleveland delegation. The South Carolina and North Carolina Conventions were controlled by the Farmers' Alliance, and the former declared against Cleveland because he is in favor of sound finance and honest money. They are not for Hill, whatever else they may favor, and can be depended upon to give the electoral votes of their States to the Democratic candidate, no matter who he may be. So far as they denounce Cleveland as the opponent of the demands of the Farmers' Alliance, they strengthen him before the country and increase the prospects for his nomination. Eight of the North Carolina delegates are for Cleveland, and it is probable that all of them will vote for him in the Convention. Indeed, his nomination is now as much of a foregone conclusion as any future political event can be. He not only has in his favor an overwhelming majority of all delegates thus far chosen, but he is the only candidate who has any organized following whatever, or whose candidacy is a positive force in the situation.

The movement to thrust Harrison aside and nominate Blaine at Minneapolis, week after next, appears to be stronger to-day than ever before. It has the active and open support of Chairman Clarkson of the Republican National Committee, Quay, Platt, and a host of minor bosses in their respective States. It plays upon the enthusiasm for Blaine which was manifested in every Republican State convention, including even those which endorsed Harrison most loudly. It profits by the extraordinary friendlessness of Harrison, and the singular lack of admiration for the man or for his Administration among the delegates who nominally support him. Finally, it enlists the warmest efforts of the host of disappointed office-seekers—an army which must grow larger and more vindictive every four years so long as the spoils system is maintained. All this, it must be admitted, makes a combination of forces the strength of which it would be foolish to underestimate.

It would be equally foolish, however, to jump to the conclusion that Blaine will be nominated. National conventions are apt to be impressionable gatherings, and one who remembers such an incident as the nomination of Horatio Seymour in 1868 realizes that anything is possible to a body which sometimes narrowly escapes being a mob, surrounded and excited by a still larger mob. But, as a rule, there is a sober second thought, even in a national convention of nearly a thousand men, which makes itself felt. There are two objections to the scheme of nominating Blaine under the existing conditions, either of which ought to prove fatal. One is the fact that he is physically disqualified alike for a campaign and for an election—so obviously and notoriously unfit to run, in point of health, that it seems preposterous that any one should suggest the idea. A party which should nominate for President a broken-down old man, who has been unable to discharge the duties of a Cabinet officer half of the time during the last year, would be fearfully handicapped. This would be true if the invalid had no other disqualification than that of his poor health. But there is a second objection to Blaine's acceptance of the nomination which is no less serious. It would involve charges of disingenuousness, double-dealing, and treachery, which could not be met, and which would cost him many thousands of votes. In short, the nomination of Blaine would be simple madness; and while Clarkson, Quay, Platt & Co. might be capable of it, we shall not believe that a national convention of 900 men from all parts of the United States will perpetrate so gross a blunder until we see it actually done.

The Republican Senate has passed the River and Harbor Bill in substantially the same form as it was sent over by the Democratic House. Both parties thus share the blame for the reckless extravagance involved. A Republican President must soon decide whether he will also become responsible for what, considering the condition of the Treasury, is a gross outrage upon the taxpayers. The bill ought to be vetoed as a matter of principle, and this is a case where policy dictates the same course that principle demands.

Senator Cockrell of Missouri talked to some purpose last week when he reviewed the appropriations of money made or to be made by the present Congress, in comparison with those made by the last Congress. The first point made by him was that the present Congress cannot repeal the laws of the last Congress or of any former Congress; nor can it fail to appropriate the money to carry out those laws. For example, the pension legislation of the last Congress has carried the appropriation for that particular purpose from $123,000,000 to $142,000,000. Here is an increase of $19,000,000. Besides this the steamship subsidies have to be paid now for the first time, and an appropriation will be needed for the French spoliation claims. The sugar bounties must be paid, of course, as long as the bounty law continues. This item, however, was embraced in the appropriations of the last Congress. The real Billion-Dollar Congress, in short, is the one which made a billion dollars necessary to meet the public expenditures.

It is difficult to see how Congress can avoid passing the bill introduced by Senator Chandler of New Hampshire to authorize Mr. Austin Corbin and his associates to buy or procure a fleet of fast ocean steamships, and have them put under the American flag on the same conditions as those granted to the Inman steamers *City of Paris* and *City of New York*. Mr. Chandler's bill provides that the vessels so acquired shall be of not less than 7,000 tons, and capable of a speed of nineteen knots an hour, and that for each such vessel acquired abroad the company shall build one of equal or greater capacity and speed in an American shipyard. This bill is identical in principle with the one which passed the Senate a few days ago by a vote of 41 to 10. It offers new employment to American shipbuilders and workingmen, and it really promises what we have so long been striving after, namely, the restoration of the American flag in a respectable way on the high seas. Now let us see who are the real friends of the flag and the true advocates of such restoration. Mr. Corbin is able to carry out his financial undertakings, and we presume that he has not asked Mr. Chandler to push this bill merely for the fun of the thing.

The authoritative announcement that the counsel of the United States in the Bering Sea arbitration are to be ex-Minister Phelps, Mr. James C. Carter, and Judge Blodgett of Chicago, shows that our case is to be in competent hands. It also indicates that the Administration now recognizes, if it has not done so hitherto, that what the Board of Arbitration will require will be solid arguments based upon the recognized canons of international

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law, and not a series of patriotic war-whoops. On May 18 it looked as if the latter mode of argument were to be the one adopted by Mr. Blaine, for we read in the *Tribune* of that day a despatch from Philadelphia, which ran as follows:

"It was announced here yesterday that Secretary Blaine had appointed, as junior counsel for the United States before the Bering Sea arbitrators, Russell Duane of this city, and has sent him a large retaining fee. Mr. Duane was a member of the class of 1891 in the law school of the University of Pennsylvania, and delivered the law oration at the commencement last June. The subject was 'The Case of the *Sayward*,' and the paper ably reviewed the whole controversy over the seal fisheries. The address was sent to Mr. Blaine, and is said to have made such an impression on him that this appointment is the direct result."

We have not seen the oration of this mature jurist, but we venture to assert that the portions of it which made such a deep impression on the legal mind of the Secretary of State consisted of shrill affirmations that if all the precedents were against the contention of this country, it was only so much the worse for them, and it was time a new set was made all around. The passing by of this legal giant for such a man as Mr. Carter is probably another instance of the President's interfering in his petty way to overrule Mr. Blaine's brilliant schemes. The international tribunal has certainly suffered an irreparable loss in being deprived of the privilege of listening to the argument of a lawyer less than one year away from his graduation.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court in the "party-rate" case helps to clear up one of the perplexities in transportation. Discrimination in the fixing of passenger or freight schedules has been one of the great causes of the enormous development of our railway traffic. The principle is a simple one in theory, though difficult to apply in practice. It consists in this, that each article should be charged for transportation exactly what that transportation is worth to its owners. Under this adjustment dry goods are discriminated from coal, and the charges of each accommodated to its own trade conditions. Thus the largest possible movement in each commodity is encouraged, with the result to the railway that it makes more aggregate profit than if it carried a small volume of traffic at an average or high rate. The Inter-State Commission has itself to thank for the decision against its contention. Its position seemed to be principally that the discrimination was unlawful in itself, and not because the terms were unjust. The opinion of the United States Supreme Court leaves open the whole subject of the justice or injustice of charging one man more than another under dissimilar circumstances. The field still left to the Inter-State Commission is a large one, and one, too, wherein the public needs the help of such a special body. Under repeated decisions against its contentions of late, the Commission may be inclined to feel that its usefulness has been much curtailed, but this is far from being the case. Unjust discriminations between one shipper and another for exactly similar services are only too common. If the Commission, turning from questions of abstract tariffs, can find some remedy for rate-cutting, it will deserve well of the whole commercial public.

Almost the last step in the process of making husband and wife not one flesh, so far as property is concerned, has just been taken by the Legislature of New York. Up to the middle of this month the law was that a married woman might contract as if unmarried with any person except her husband, but since that time contracts between husband and wife are lawful. There is nothing now to hinder the formation of ordinary business partnerships between matrimonial partners, and as such partnerships were already, to a certain extent, recognized by the courts, it is, perhaps, as well that all uncertainty as to their validity should be removed by statute. Whether it is desirable that the estates of married women should be subjected to the severe law of partnership liability may still be questioned, but there is little probability that the tendency to do away with the old incidents of coverture will be reversed. The manner in which this change in our law, which is obviously of very great importance, was brought about may seem a little remarkable to students of abstract jurisprudence. A lawyer writes to the New York *Law Journal* that he had observed that the law imposed certain partnership liabilities upon married women, and that it occurred to him that they ought to enjoy corresponding rights; whereupon he drafted such a bill as he thought would accomplish this result, and had it introduced at Albany, where it was enacted by the Legislature. Without questioning either the motives or the wisdom of the author of the act, we must say that it is not an altogether satisfactory state of affairs when fundamental changes in the law can be accomplished by individual citizens in so summary a manner.

When any important question is to come before the Presbyterian General Assembly, the election of Moderator is usually made a test of the strength of parties. If the vote at Portland on Thursday has any bearing on the Briggs controversy, it shows only, what everybody knew, that the Professor's opponents are in a large majority. No distinct issue was made, yet the Moderator chosen was the one picked out by Princeton, and is known to be a stiff conservative. Whether the merits of the famous case will come directly before this Assembly may be doubted. There seem to be good technical reasons against the power of the Assembly to take jurisdiction of the question immediately. Yet it is altogether likely that the majority will find some means of putting a seal of condemnation on the doctrines which the Briggs men either advocate or ask to have tolerated. In so doing it is certain that they would express the sentiment of a great majority of their denomination.

The report on church-going, read before the annual meeting of the Congregational churches of Massachusetts last week, has already received much attention, and is sure to receive more. This is not so much on account of the completeness of the report as of its suggestiveness. The facts reported do not begin to cover the whole field, and the causes given for the admitted decline in church-going are often only more or less vague and unverified guesses. But the important thing is the recognition thus made by an important denomination of the fact that the old test of the moral condition of the people —their church-going habits—is no longer an infallible one. If it were to be applied rigidly to Massachusetts, that State would be proved, on the strength of this report, to have alarmingly retrograded towards paganism during the last fifty years. But other good tests show that this is not the case. The assumption that church-going is always and of itself moral, while non-church-going is similarly immoral, appears to underlie this report just as it does many other discussions of the subject; but the state of things brought out in the report shows that such an assumption cannot safely be made. Not all, at any rate, of the wide variety of recreative alternatives shown to be now adopted by people in place of the former sole intellectual and æsthetic Sunday occupation, can be inferred to be of a necessarily harmful social effect.

The Association of American Authors certainly starts off with the great promise said to attach to movements of unnoticed and almost despised beginnings. We have seen no signs that publishers are struck by it with consternation, feeling that at last a strong hand is to hold their tyranny and avarice in check, nor that, on the other hand, the race of oppressed writers is hailing the birth-hour of their freedom. There was a certain ominousness in the fact, made known at the meeting for organization, that a society of similar name and of partly similar aims had been in existence in this country for more than a year without having come under the notice of the general public, or even of the majority of the specially interested authors who lent their names to the new enterprise. Will it be the fate of the latter to lead a like mute and inglorious life? The answer will depend upon the reality of the alleged grievances of authors and the acuteness with which they are felt—on both of which points the information of the Society does not seem to be as conclusive as could be wished—and upon the additional question whether

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writers as such have enough in common to furnish a genuine bond of union such as is assumed to exist.

The London *Economist* of May 7 has a very sharp article in condemnation of Mr. Goschen's course in reference to the international bimetallic conference. It says that the Bank of England will *not* consent to substitute silver for gold to the extent of one-fifth of its reserve, or to any other extent, and that if the Bank itself would consent, the business community and Parliament would not. If Mr. Goschen wants a test of public opinion on this point, it says, let him bring forward his bill to renew the Bank's charter, which is about to expire. "And that or some other early opportunity," it adds, "should certainly be taken of putting a stop to misrepresentations which are placing this country in an essentially false position as regards the proposed Conference." It really looks as though the Salisbury Ministry had "put its foot in it" in two places—in the matter of silver as well as in the matter of protection.

Lord Salisbury is prone to make trouble for his supporters whenever he delivers a speech, but his performance at Hastings on Wednesday week was an almost incredible piece of political folly. England, he declared, was suffering from the protective tariffs of other nations. They were excluding her from their markets and trying to kill her trade. They were negotiating among themselves and obtaining concessions from one another, but "none is anxious about the favor of Great Britain, because Great Britain has stripped herself of the armor and weapons with which the battle is to be fought." England's attitude "in regarding it disloyal to the glorious and sacred doctrines of free trade to levy duties on anybody for the sake of the good we get thereby, may be noble," he sarcastically observed, "but it is not businesslike." If England wants to hold her own in the conflict of tariffs, she must be prepared to refuse nations that have hostile tariffs access to her markets.

Apparently at this point Lord Salisbury was startled at the length to which he had gone, for he at once added that he was not prepared to inflict dangerous wounds upon England in order to punish other countries. He would not venture to inflict such dangerous wounds as would be caused by raising the price of food and raw materials, and, therefore, it was not practicable to exclude the products of the United States. Still, he seems to have thought, if it would not be wise to inflict dangerous wounds upon England's prosperity, there was a chance to administer some moderate cuts and slashes. Duties might be imposed upon wines, and silk, and gloves, and laces, and in this way access might be secured to the neighboring markets. The idea that favorable markets might be gained if England would inflict some slight wounds on herself, irresistibly suggests the proceedings of the prophets of Baal, who "cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them." Of appeals like this to the modern Baal, Protection, it will probably be true that there is "neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded." The effect of this speech upon the Liberal-Unionists cannot fail to be demoralizing. They have put up with a good deal in acting with the Tories, but they can hardly put up with such doctrine as this. As the *Chronicle* says, "the Gladstonians ought formally to pray Lord Salisbury to deliver a series of addresses until the brink of the election."

A very gloomy picture of the finances of the Australasian colonies is drawn in the *Investors' Review*. Fifteen years ago these seven States had a population of 2,400,000, and a public debt of £70,000,000. To-day their population is not quite 4,000,000 while their debt is nearly £200,000,000. But, in addition to the debt of the States, the *Review* contends, there should be reckoned the debt of municipalities and other corporations, so far as it is held abroad, as well as British deposits in colonial banks. Including indebtedness of this kind, the total is made to be £280,000,000, or £280 per family of four persons; nothing approaching which is to be found elsewhere. It is admitted that this debt is to a great extent represented by productive works, but, in spite of the revenue derived from these, the rate of taxation in 1890 was over £3 per head—10s. more than the average of both local and imperial taxation in the United Kingdom. Undoubtedly the trade of these countries is very large and their apparent prosperity very great. But the *Review* argues that both traffic and prosperity depend upon the constant supply of new capital. So long as £8,000,000 or £10,000,000 of new capital could be borrowed every year it was hard not to show signs of prosperity. But capitalists have had a fright, and borrowing must be suspended for a time. If prosperity continues, it will establish beyond question the wisdom of the borrowing policy; but the present signs are that it will not continue.

It is instructive to contrast the financial condition of Australasia with that of a country in one sense younger, in another sense older. In 1861 the new kingdom of Italy assumed £125,000,000 of debt previously contracted by its constituent elements. In 1867 the debts of Lombardy and Venice were added, as well as the debt incurred in the war of 1866, and in 1870 the debt of the Papal States was assumed. In this way the debt of the kingdom was increased to more than £200,000,000, but in 1872 the total amounted to £360,000,000, the difference being chiefly due to expenditures for railways and other public works. Including railway, provincial, and communal debts, the total burden is now not far from £600,000,000, involving an annual charge of £24,000,000. Since 1878, according to Signor Rudini, £73,000,000 have been spent upon railways by the State, an operation which he compares to that of a farmer who borrows money at 6 or 7 per cent. in order to improve land so as to get a return of 2 per cent. Here, then, is one important difference between Australasia and Italy. The Italian railways pay a very small return upon the capital invested in them, while the colonial railways pay upon the whole a large return. The other important difference is of course in military expenditure. In Italy the debt and the war establishment account for two-thirds of the expenditure, while one-tenth of it is on public works, so that little more than one-fifth is applicable to the civil administration. The burden of debt per head is considerably less than in the countries of Australasia, being perhaps £18 to £20, but the rate of taxation can be hardly less than £2 per head. Italy has been extravagant in her military establishment and in public works; Australasia has been extravagant only in the latter respect. In the latter case the extravagance may prove to be not a serious matter; but in the case of Italy there is no future development to count upon.

One of the most discouraging features in the present political position of Brazil is the persistence of the military government which has practically existed ever since the so-called republic was set up. The army and its commander-in-chief are really the rulers of Brazil to-day. The country has never, of course, had a great degree of self-government, or developed a large number of men familiar with public affairs and capable of conducting them according to the recognized methods of civil government. Yet it had a few such—men who had made a name for themselves as financiers or administrators—but they are now all retired to private life. We believe it is safe to say that not a single member of the present Cabinet has had more than a limited experience and reputation in governmental matters. With the trained men sent below and a lot of green hands in command, it is no wonder that the course of the ship is so erratic and alarming. The *Rio News* of April 19 says on this point:

"Up to the present moment, Brazil has been nothing more than a military dictatorship, and it is now rapidly drifting into a hopeless state of anarchy. Its Constitution, notwithstanding its fine phrases, is a mere fiction, for there has not been a day since its promulgation which has not seen it disregarded and broken. It is inoperative and dead, for every one of its fundamental principles regarding the Presidency, the States, the finances, and personal guarantees, is disregarded and broken. Thus far the effort to create a republic has been a total failure."

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A LESSON IN SELF-GOVERNMENT.

IN one of the most striking passages of his 'American Commonwealth,' Mr. Bryce comments upon the alternation of despondency and hope aroused by the spectacle of our political life. "A hundred times," he says, "in writing this book have I been disheartened by the fact I was stating; a hundred times has the recollection of the abounding strength and vitality of the nation chased away these tremors." There is in the American people "a reserve of force and patriotism more than sufficient to sweep away all the evils which are now tolerated, and to make the politics of the country worthy of its material grandeur and of the private virtue of its inhabitants." It is good to dwell upon this judgment. There is a continuous stream of invective poured out against our rich men and our educated men because of their neglect of their political duties, but much of this invective is indiscriminate and unjustified. Many of these men are as deeply concerned in the welfare of the country as their critics, and they would gladly devote a large share of their time and energy to its service if they saw how it was to be done. They have political strength and virtue, but it is held in reserve, as Mr. Bryce says. And it is held in reserve partly because the demand for it is generally not very great, but chiefly because of the difficulty felt in applying it.

This difficulty is not of a novel character: it is as old as human society. It is the difficulty of meeting organized force with unorganized force. In human society nothing great can be accomplished by individual effort; there must be combination. The familiar lesson of history is that of the success of the organized few against the unorganized many; and the progress of liberty consists largely in the development among the many of the capacity for organization. Where this capacity exists or is developed, self-government, as it is called, becomes possible; and where it is not manifested, nothing but despotism can prevail. That this capacity is rare or is not easily developed is proved by the monotonous annals of oppression. There have always been enough men of virtue and wisdom in every considerable State to secure good government if they acted together; but they have seldom been able to unite, and the defeat of isolated and sporadic attempts at revolution has served to increase the power of despots.

We have learned in the course of the century which has passed that representative government is not necessarily free from the vices of despotism. Apparently, when the people choose their rulers, oppression is impossible; but the old difficulty reappears in connection with the machinery of choice. A great number of people, occupying an extensive territory, cannot meet for consultation as to whom they will choose to rule over them. There must be a smaller number, a manageable mass, which shall undertake this duty, and this smaller number becoming, after a time, thoroughly organized, naturally becomes the true governing body. In its hands is the party organization, the machinery of nomination and of election. This is our present condition. We have the forms of liberty, it is true. Any citizen may vote for whom he chooses as a ruler, and generally his vote will be counted. But practically he is shut up to a choice between the nominees of two great parties—that is, to the election of nominal rulers selected by the real ones.

The ordinary remedy prescribed for this evil is to "attend the primaries." But the remedy does not begin far enough back. A sprinkling of discontented but disorganized voters at a primary is as helpless as a mob before the police. There must be a prior organization in order to decide upon a fixed course of action; and just here is our difficulty. It is an immense undertaking to form a political organization that shall be effective. It not only must consist of a large number of men, but must exist in a large number of places. There must be a clearly defined purpose in order to make the organization coherent; and every one who has witnessed an attempt to start a "movement" of any kind has been convinced of the truth of the proverb, "Many men, many minds." Even if a common purpose exists, it is an enormous labor to find it out. There must be numberless conferences and consultations, and, in the rush of modern events, if too much time is spent in learning the possibility of organization and determining its scope, the time for action will have passed.

In the light of these principles, the movement that is now taking place in the State of New York among those who have hitherto voted for the candidates of the Democratic party is a wonderful and most cheering spectacle. The rulers of that party suddenly find themselves in the position of a despot who has relied upon his army to suppress revolution, and finds that it is deserting him. Honest and decent and patriotic citizens have at last met organization by organization. They are at last "going to the primaries"—not to primaries that have been already "fixed" by the party rulers, but to primaries called to express freely and fairly the common purpose by which they are animated. In its way this is as fine an exhibition of political capacity as the formation of a volunteer army of patriotic citizens in 1861. The emergency has not been extreme, there has been little in the situation to inspire the imagination, and the expense and the drudgery of creating an organization with nothing to build upon have been great. Under these circumstances, the orderly and deliberate combination of more than 200,000 men into a disciplined force, simply in response to the feeling of indignation aroused by the arrogance of their rulers, is exceedingly impressive. We do not believe that the inhabitants of any other country are capable of such a feat, and we should scarcely have believed it possible here.

Apart from the immediate practical results of the movement—and it may decide the policy of the national Government for many years—several important lessons are to be learned from it. In the first place, we may derive hope from it as to our country's future. Nothing can mar that future but our own misgovernment, and this uprising shows that very gross misgovernment can be and will be stopped. Many persons have professed confidence that the "popular heart" was right, but now we have proof not only of this, but also that the popular heart is guided by a popular intelligence. The great cloud upon the future has been the tyranny of party organization, and it has been shown that when this organization was apparently most perfect and complete and powerful, it could yet be overthrown. When a people proves that it has the capacity to create a party organization within the space of three months, it is time for every existing party organization to look to its ways. Party rule is necessary, and so are party rulers. But that they are not so necessary that they cannot be changed has been established by this movement. They can keep their power if they will give us good government, but they have had warning that their tenure is during good behavior. We do not hesitate to say that the men who have unselfishly given their time and strength to this movement have rendered their country as great a service as if they had flown to arms in her defence. Their achievement will not bring them fame, or even insure them the gratitude of their own generation, but they may rest assured that, whether they are honored or not, they have deserved well of the Republic.

THE MACHINE VS. THE POPULAR WILL.

THE comments which Congressman Blount of Georgia makes upon the defeat of the Hill schemers in his State are both instructive and illuminating. He calls attention to the fact that the two most powerful Democratic newspapers in the State, two Democratic United States Senators, several Democratic members of Congress, the President of the Farmers' Alliance, and other presumably powerful political leaders, were for months engaged in a systematic effort to prevent the State Democratic Convention from electing a Cleveland delegation, and then says of the complete triumph of Cleveland sentiment in the Convention: "It looks like the assertion of the popular feeling in defiance of the men who tried to manage the Convention. When such an array of talent falls short of success, the reason is not far to seek."

What was attempted by the Democratic Machine politicians in Georgia is precisely what their brethren in other States have been attempting for months past. From one end of the country to the other the

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politicians of the Democratic party have been devoting all their energies to a combined effort to prevent the masses of the party from nominating the man of their choice. At no time since the elections of 1890 has there been a particle of doubt as to Mr. Cleveland's being the choice of an overwhelming majority of the members of his own party. The only question has been whether or not the politicians of his party would consent to his nomination. The reasons of their opposition to him were never disputed. They do not wish to see him nominated simply because they know they cannot use him for their purposes after election. They began their campaign for the defeat of the will of their own party with the "snap" convention at Albany on February 22, and have fought desperately in every State convention which has been held since that time. The Hill Machine gave them their only victory, and it proved to be the political death of the man who won it. In every other State in which they have closed with the popular will, they either have been routed completely, or have come off with only a few delegates to show for their struggle. There is no question that if they were to let the party will have free expression, every State in the Union would send a solid Cleveland delegation to Chicago.

The pretences which have been made for opposing Mr. Cleveland's candidacy have been as absurd as the efforts to defeat the popular will have been futile. It was declared at first that he was not the choice of his party, but merely the favorite of a few Mugwumps and Democratic "soreheads"; but as State convention after State convention has come together, so irrepressible with enthusiasm for him that the full power of the Machine could not keep it down, this pretence has had to be abandoned. Now the only argument remaining is, that he cannot be elected since he cannot command the united support of his party. What queer reasoning is that which claims that the candidate who has the largest popular strength in his party is his party's weakest candidate! The masses of the party are so determined to nominate him that the party Machine is powerless to prevent it, and yet some other candidate, whom the masses of the party do not want and will not take, would be a stronger candidate! If this is the wisdom of "practical politicians," wherein does it differ from that of fools?

That the popular will, which has triumphed in the State conventions, will triumph in the National Convention cannot be doubted. The fight of the Machine to smother the party's voice has been made and lost. "The popular feeling all over the country," says Mr. Blount, "will make itself felt in the National Convention as it does in the State conventions. The almost universal bent of the party towards Mr. Cleveland is due, not to any kind of hero worship, but to the fact that he represents to the public mind, as no other man in public life does at the present moment, the principle of tariff reform. The people believe in that and in him as its representative, and they are sweeping down everything which gets in their way." This is made plain by the delegations which have been chosen by twenty-six of the forty-four States. Mr. Cleveland is the only candidate who has any following which can be called either definite or permanent. All the alleged opposing candidates come under the head of "scattering," and there is not the slightest hope for the nomination of any one of them. What a position the party would be in were its politicians able to defeat the one candidate whom the masses of the party desired to nominate!

The defeat of the Machine in this contest is a distinct triumph for popular government and for our national-convention system. There have been times when it looked as if the day were near at hand when a national convention would become nothing more than a mere recording instrument for registering the will of the Machine; but this year's experience shows that such a perversion is possible only when the people have not a definite choice of their own. Primary machine methods may triumph in a State convention, but in the nation at large they are powerless to overcome the popular will, or to divert it from its purpose.

NEW FIELDS FOR THE CLERGY.

THE activity of Dr. Parkhurst in the movement against crime and criminal politics in this city is only the most striking of many recent signs of a noteworthy departure in the general view of clergymen as to their obligations and duties. They are waking up to a realization of the fact that they are citizens, and that they have something more laid upon them than simply "to preach religion." They are to do their part in the struggle to maintain good government and to right social wrongs, and their weapons are to be of unclerical modern pattern and their methods of scientific devising. As the Chicago correspondent of the *Congregationalist* said in reporting a recent address by Dr. Graham Taylor before the Congregational Club of that city: "The leading idea of the address was that the work of evangelization must now proceed along the line of sociological laws. This is a modern study in which Christians ought to be experts."

The extent to which this spirit of practical citizenship is animating the clergymen of the country, though constantly illustrated in the news despatches as they drift by, escapes general attention, which is arrested by what is startling or sensational. The average reader notices that a clergyman is turning his attention to citizenship only when he takes a hand in politics, or appears in the rôle of "crusader" against vice, like Dr. Parkhurst, or like the Rev. John L. Scudder of Jersey City in his war upon Guttenberg and other race-tracks. But the tendency is seen in many different illustrations of a quieter type. On a recent Sunday in Chicago, for example, a mass-meeting was held in Bricklayers' Hall to denounce "the sweating system." The *Inter-Ocean* reports that "the Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones presided. He read letters from the Rev. Charles E. Cheney of Christ Church and the Rev. S. J. McPherson of the Second Presbyterian Church, denouncing the system in unmeasured terms and regretting their inability to be present." In this connection it will be recalled that a Boston clergyman not long ago preached a series of sermons denunciatory of "the sweating system," which, unless we are mistaken, led to the recent Congressional investigation of the subject. Another illustration is the consideration by the Methodist preachers of Chicago, at a regular Monday meeting, of the early-closing movement for clerks. The debate was given a curious theological twist, or justification, by the Rev. N. H. Axtell, who said, according to the report of the Chicago *Herald*, that "these clerks were especially needy of relief because for the most part they were employed by Jews who do not recognize the Christian Sabbath." The general sentiment seemed to be that preachers ought to instruct their congregations that it was a Christian duty to "shop earlier." A committee was appointed to visit employers and bring the hardships of the clerks to their attention. In Milwaukee, it seems, the law against selling liquor to minors has been generally and notoriously violated. This evil was taken up at a recent Monday meeting by the Ministerial Association, composed apparently of pastors of various denominations. A committee was appointed to secure a prosecuting agent. The plan, according to a despatch from Milwaukee, is "to hire a man for a period of four or five years at a good salary, who will devote his entire time to watching the saloon-keepers and causing their arrest and prosecution for all violations of the law."

But perhaps the most curious illustration of all is to be found in the subject considered by the Central North Chicago Ministerial Association, when it met on a recent evening in the Belden Avenue Baptist Church—the important subject, "How to get our streets cleaned." J. M. Burke, "Superintendent of the Streets"—as the Chicago *Herald* describes him—appeared before the meeting to advocate his special plan, which was to raise money for street-cleaning by a special assessment, levied on the adjoining property benefited instead of by a general tax. In the course of his speech Mr. Burke gave the clergymen this "practical pointer": "The way to get this thing through is by talking to your Aldermen. I can't do it, for I am a politician. If I go to the Alderman from this ward, he would say, 'Well, Jim, that's a dodge to get Republican votes.' But I'll guarantee that if you go to him, he'll do what you want." A committee of five was appointed "to confer about the matter."

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To consider the question of street-cleaning is perhaps no more incongruous for modern clergymen than was, when delivered, Dr. Horace Bushnell's famous sermon of years ago in favor of certain road improvements in Hartford. The "halfway covenant," no doubt, was the direct cause of Jonathan Edwards's historic quarrel with his church in Northampton. Yet his attempt to regulate the reading of the younger members of his flock, his denunciation of certain books as immoral, was a contributing cause which could hardly be classed as too "remote," as they say in law. It would be a very interesting question to trace out how far the modern view, which confines a clergyman's activities to "religion," and forbids him as a citizen to do anything more than deposit his ballot as unobtrusively as possible, is a case of evolution, springing from the voluntary system, which holds a clergyman neutral because of the differing views of the many who pay him his stipend. Certainly this view is in marked contrast with the view, at that time, of the old New England clergyman, who was often "a pope in his parish," as well as with the popular view in England, where clergymen of the Established Church are prominent as citizens of influence and sometimes as magistrates, and the dissenting ministers are working politicians as a rule.

The growth of a spirit of independence and active citizenship among American clergymen, whether its manifestations are always wise or not, is certainly in the direction of a return to the clergyman's original status.

THE POPE'S LETTER TO THE FRENCH CARDINALS.

THE great rent in the Christian Church caused by the Reformation has rendered it difficult in these modern days for Catholics and Protestants to appreciate each other. This is especially true in the case of the Protestants of English descent, for difference of speech has coöperated with political influences to make the gulf more impassable. The great mass of Protestants in this country—certainly those who are animated by sincere religious feeling—are strongly affected by a traditional hostility to the "Pope of Rome," and probably entertain much the same feeling about him as was long since expressed by John Bunyan. That sturdy writer, it will be recollected, with a curious mixture of contempt and bitterness, said of "Giant Pope," that "though he be yet alive, he is by reason of age, and also of the many shrewd brushes that he met with in his younger days, grown so crazy and stiff in his joints that he can now do little more than sit in his cave's mouth, grinning at Pilgrims as they go by, and biting his nails because he cannot come at them."

Yet, while the Pope has been shorn of his temporal sovereignty, many events could be cited to show that as a spiritual power he is by no means so decrepit as Bunyan represented him. Those who recognize his authority have greatly increased in number in the Protestant countries, and in the German Empire it has been found safer to conciliate than offend him. In times past the Papacy has resisted political reform, and it steadily opposes the advance of the scientific spirit; but with a wonderful adaptability it acquiesces in the inevitable, and the defeat of its attempts in some directions seems only to increase its success in others. There are many causes for the remarkable vitality of this institution; but there is one in particular which is strikingly manifested in the letter just addressed by the Pope to the Cardinal Archbishops of France in confirmation of his recent encyclical.

It is unnecessary to refer to the position of the Catholic Church in France further than to say that the Royalist sentiment there is identified with Catholicism. There are Catholics who are not Royalists, but all Royalists are Catholics. Hence there has prevailed among the believers in republican institutions in France a sentiment towards the Catholic clergy not unlike that which animated the English after the expulsion of the Stuarts. All Catholics were looked upon as hostile to the new Government; indeed, they were presumptively traitors. They were harried for fear of a Stuart restoration, and they are now harried in France for fear of a restoration of monarchy. Persecution has seldom accomplished very much when directed against convictions supported by reason; and while there was a possibility of reëstablishing monarchy the repressive measures of the Republic only intensified the Royalist spirit. But the death of the last Bourbon, the Comte de Chambord, and the disgraceful connection of the Orleans princes with Boulanger, extinguished all rational expectation of a return of the old order. To maintain the hostile attitude of the French clergy towards the Republic became, therefore, not only useless, but absurd. It was natural that they should not be willing to confess that the cause for which they had struggled and suffered so long was lost. Perhaps they could not see that it was so; but the Pope has seen it, and has instructed them accordingly.

That these instructions should be characterized by tact is no more than would be expected from the Vatican; but they also indicate the possession by the Pope of a very high degree of political wisdom. He points out that the supreme end to be attained by the Church is religion, and that, under the adverse circumstances prevailing in France, it is hopeless for Christians to struggle for this end unless they are united. There must be no more parties among them; they must forget their differences in devotion to the cause of Jesus Christ. They must therefore accept, "with that perfect loyalty becoming in Christians," the civil power in the form in which *de facto* it exists. The reason for such acceptance is that "the common weal of society makes it preëminent over any other interest," as being the creative principle and the conservative element. It is true, the Pope continues, that, although the political power is always from God, the divine appointment does not always and directly affect the modes of transmission of that power, or the forms it assumes, or the persons who are the subjects of it. There are incessant changes in political forms, which may not be legitimate at the start; yet the supreme criterion of the common weal and public tranquillity requires the acceptance of these new governments established *de facto* in the place of other governments which *de facto* have ceased to exist.

Having laid down this most sound and salutary doctrine, the Pope next draws a distinction which is not the less important because it is not understood by a large and influential school of political theorists. The sovereignty of the State, he points out, is not absolute. It is the duty of the subject to accept the established political authority; but this does not imply acceptance of legislation on points where the legislator, forgetful of his mission, sets himself in opposition to the law of God and of the Church. "And let all bear in mind," he continues, "that to display activity and use influence to induce Government to change for the better iniquitous laws void of wisdom is to give proof of a devotion to the country alike intelligent and courageous, without evincing a shadow of hostility to the authorities deputed to govern public affairs. Who would think of denouncing the Christians of the first centuries as adversaries of the Roman Empire because they did not bow to its idolatrous proscriptions, but endeavored to effect their abolition?"

In short, the Pope recognizes that the end of civil government is the preservation of order, not the enforcing of opinions, and that the higher law of conscience is controlling upon the members of every human polity. This is not the quarter towards which Protestants would naturally look for such doctrine, but the skill with which the Papacy knows how to adjust principles to circumstances is one great cause, as we have said, of its perennial vitality.

AMERICANS IN CHINA.

WISCONSIN, May 15, 1892.

THE Chinese are more sinned against by us than sinning. How they are treated in this country nobody needs to be told, but their relations at home to Americans on their soil are not so well known, and may be somewhat elucidated by one who has been a looker-on in the seats of recent outrages and elsewhere in China. A few months before the disturbances began, I went up the Yang-tse to Han-Kow, the Celestial St. Louis, lingered there, as well as in Kiu-Kiang, Chin-Kiang, and Wu-hu, where the first outbreak occurred. In all these cities and several others I walked about as at home, often alone, sometimes with an

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American lady, or was carried in an open sedan, called at shops and whatever other places I chose, and was nowhere molested. I was frequently a phenomenon, in dress and physiognomy, such as had been scarcely seen, and hence the observed of all observers. Sometimes jostled in the crowded street, and sometimes laughed at, I was never insulted or maltreated. In Chin-Kiang I saw beautiful new buildings just completed for a foreign consulate by the Imperial Government, to replace others which a mob had destroyed. Similar edifices are now building there or in other cities where mobs have destroyed the property of foreigners.

A government which feels liable to indemnify foreigners for the destruction of their property cannot countenance mobs against them. An article admitting such a liability and specifying that of travelling missionaries was long since inserted in a treaty with France, and hence French priests have gone to and fro at their ease. In treaties with the United States, however, there is no such clause. An American female physician, Miss Fulton, on a tour in the interior, was assaulted and robbed of many valuables. Damages were claimed through Charles Seymour, the American Consul. They should be granted, said the Viceroy, if it were so nominated in the bond. "It is," said Seymour, "for our treaty reads that as to all particulars not mentioned the United States shall stand on the footing of the most favored nation; therefore we are entitled to such indemnities as you grant to France." He obtained what he sought; and in these last years our missionaries, as they journey, feel secure and are safe so far as the powers that be can protect them. But if we trample on treaties, how long will the Chinese reverence them? They must say with *Shylock*, "The villainy you teach us we will execute; and it shall go hard but we will better the instruction."

The imperial officials have done something in aid of missionary endeavors to rectify false notions which have infuriated the populace against foreigners. The Viceroy at Canton had need of a surgical operation which baffled native skill, called in Dr. Kerr of the Peter Parker Hospital, and was promptly relieved. His gratitude was fervent, and he begged to know how he could help the hospital. The Doctor said: "I have translated several medical tracts which I am anxious to keep before your people," and he went away happy in a publishing-fund of twelve hundred dollars from the Viceroy and his retinue. A prevalent delusion, which was refuted in the tracts, was the opinion that the only panacea for sore eyes must be made out of eyes—eyes of the living, the young, and the healthy. In nothing has the success of missionaries all along from 1839, when their first hospital was established, been more conspicuous than in ophthalmic diseases. The slander that they abducted children and plucked out their eyes was all the more naturally suggested and easily believed. It is an error that dies hard. It was the exciting cause of uprisings and atrocities last year which convulsed millions and echoed through the world. The following is a translation of a placard, the original of which is in my hands, which was posted abundantly on the house-walls in Canton in 1891:

"There is a Roman Catholic chapel at Mai Mar Street, where foreign devils and native Christians are united in society for the purpose of extracting the two eyeballs of our Chinese youths to prepare their medicines. From the beginning to the present the cases have been ten thousand. Even stone-carved lions hearing of them would shed tears. Judging from the strength and vastness of our Ta-ching dynasty, can she with unruffled sleeves stand by as a looker-on? Brothers from the four directions, let us together take revenge," etc.

Similar inflammatory appeals—sometimes pictorial, showing a crucified hog, sometimes doggerel, saying that seventh-day meetings were for mutilating women and children—had been pasted beforehand on walls wherever any anti-foreign riots occurred. Such riots were averted in Canton, in the judgment of Consul Seymour, through every foreigner and native convert being on the watch to discover and destroy or bring before the police every such malicious handbill. Analogous slanders on the Chinese, if posted on all our walls, would not move our Government to raise a finger. But the Imperial Government feels a responsibility unknown to us. Hence, Consul Seymour of Canton writes to me: "I have never yet called for a man-of-war or gunboat, but I am a firm believer in the resources of diplomacy, and have always found that getting the attention of the authorities to threatening placards which always precede outrage was an effective way to prevent trouble." Chinese officials were ready to punish the authors of the scandalous posters, but those incendiaries long lurked undetected. Accordingly, the Rev. Griffith John, a veteran Welsh missionary of Han-Kow, is thought to have dealt persecution a death-blow by proving that the anti-Christian libels were paid for by wealthy Chinese in Hunan on the upper Yang-tse, and ascertaining the name of the mandarin who was most active in organizing the work of distributing this mischievous literature. The disclosures made by Dr. John might easily be paralleled from the annals of Chinese on our Pacific Slope; but when we expose such American assaults, the only response is, "What are you going to do about it?" They order this matter otherwise in China. Exposure there will secure from a Government more sinned against than sinning indemnity for the past and protection for the future.

GALLANT LITTLE WALES.

LONDON, May 6, 1892.

THE excesses of the French Revolution led in these countries for more than a generation to a reactionary régime in which perished for the time all hopes of reform and advancement. Irish self-government went down, as had Scottish a century earlier. The kingdom was governed for a class and by a class, which regarded its own interests as supreme and as equivalent to the interests of the nation. That class, constituted of men belonging to the same church, educated at kindred schools and universities, drawing their incomes mainly from the same sources, connected socially, imbued with the same prejudices, actuated by the same desires, entertained no other ideal than that all portions of the British Islands should be reduced to a dead level of institutions, law, and order under their own rule. The protests of Scott, in his "Malachi Malagrowther," against this system, appeared as vain as the pathetic regrets of Grattan from his garden at Tinnehinch.

With the death of the last of the Georges the clouds broke, and reform became possible. The rule of the great proprietors and highly paid officials partially gave way to that of the political philosophers. These were cultivated men, actuated by high motives, well fitted theoretically for the task of government, imbued with lofty ideals and sincere desires for the good of their fellow-men. But they regarded humanity from too abstract and philosophic a point of view. The 'Wealth of Nations' was their gospel, *laisser-faire* the doctrine that was to lead mankind to prosperity and happiness. It was doubtless due to the predominance of such minds in the forties that we owe the free trade we enjoy. Under these men, even more perhaps than under the old Tories, was the United Kingdom to be governed simply as a unit. (Their heirs and representatives, the "professors" of to-day, are among the bitterest opponents of home rule.) National aspirations within the borders of the British Isles were to be set aside as childish dreams, unworthy the philosophic manhood of the age. Through all, underneath all, burned in the hearts of the "common people" of different portions of the kingdom national feelings and separate necessities and desires—in Ireland, regarded as treason, and in Scotland and Wales as the dreams of the bards. Education, bringing the commonalty forward, the ballot, giving them power, have, however, changed all that, and have compelled practical politicians to guide their actions more by the actual prejudices and wishes of the majority than by abstract reasonings. The people are now being represented by men of their own class, or imbued with their own feelings; and even if an overtaxed central legislature did not call for decentralization, the different nationalities themselves demand it in one form or another.

In the United States and the United Kingdom apparently opposite tendencies assert themselves—in the one, perhaps, a process of centralization which, however, cannot result in homogeneity; in the other, a process of decentralization which cannot result in separation. It is to be feared that the attempts of Scotland and Wales to participate in the advantages of decentralization may retard the progress of Irish home rule. England might make up her mind to the change regarding the sister island; but if as a concomitant within her own borders she must face changes upon somewhat similar lines, she may be slower to concede the principle. Ireland has struggled so long, and suffered so much, that she naturally regards with some jealousy these other laborers who have not borne the burthen and heat of the day, and who yet come forward demanding like reward. However this may be, these claims are certainly being made in other parts of the kingdom besides Ireland.

It is Wales we now propose to consider. Her self-assertion and resurgence, as it were, are to outsiders an unexpected phenomenon. A century ago the principality was but little visited, and was regarded as a remote, uncivilized district, whose inhabitants had been rescued by Wesley and Whitefield from the materialism in which they had been left by the unfaithfulness of the Church of England. It was believed that English civilization, advancing over the Welsh borders, would before long as completely eliminate all traces of the old language and peculiarities as those of Cornwall had been eliminated. Wales is, however, to-day as dissenting as Ireland is Catholic. She has clung to her language with a desperate tenacity; while in Ireland the people have discarded the older form of the Celtic, which one hundred years ago was spoken in every corner of their land. Wales comprises the eleven western counties of England, south of the estuary of the Dee, north of the estuary of the Severn. She covers 5,000,000 of the 37,000,000 acres commonly known as "England," and has 1,500,000 out of its 29,000,000 inhabitants. Her population has increased just in the proportion that Ireland's has diminished

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within the decade. She returns thirty members to Parliament, twenty-eight of whom are enthusiastic Gladstonians.

It is opined that one form of Celtic was originally spoken throughout Great Britain and Ireland. It branched into two families, now more widely different than the Germanic and Scandinavian divisions of the Teutonic stem—into (1) Irish, Scottish, Manx; into (2) Welsh, Cornish, and the Armoric of Brittany. Irish is the most archaic form; it is richest in ancient records. It alone has adopted a different form of letter from the ordinary Roman, and the orthography is simpler than that of Scottish or Welsh, in that the modifications at the beginnings of the words are effected for the most part by accent and not by radical alteration in the spelling. Scottish-Gaelic is practically the same as Irish; so was the Manx (now practically extinct) until modified by communication with Wales after the Anglo-Norman conquest of Ireland. Phonetically Welsh, in its tendency to labiation, stands to Irish as Greek stands to Latin—the Irish *ben*, a high mountain, becomes in Welsh *pen;* the Irish *mac*, son, *map*. Welsh is the oldest of its branch of the family, and differs from Cornish (one hundred years extinct) much as French differs from Spanish. The Cornish differs from the Armoric of Brittany much as Spanish differs from Portuguese. Welsh is more spoken than ever before; it is the language of fully three-fourths of the inhabitants of the principality, and of this proportion the greater number cannot speak English. It is the only tongue except English ever heard in the lobbies and libraries of the House of Commons. Government forms and returns in Wales are issued in both English and Welsh; so also are the notices outside post-offices and churches.

The leaders of Welsh thought are determined to make and preserve their country bilingual. The great English proprietors, with estates in the principality, who see the necessity of maintaining their influence among their tenants and neighbors, now engage Welsh-speaking governesses for their children. Forty-four years ago it was possible for a writer in *Blackwood* to declare that "there is no Welsh literature worthy of the name," and that there were only 405 books circulating in the language—309 religious and poetic, 50 scientific, 46 general. There were few newspapers, and they had only a small circulation. At present there are printed in Welsh no fewer than seventeen weeklies, with circulations ranging from 1,500 to 23,000. There are besides several monthlies and quarterlies, one of which prints 37,000 copies. There is an ever-increasing library of Welsh books, covering all departments of literature and representing every science and turn of thought. A Welsh-English dictionary is now being published, the first volume of which, running to 400 quarto pages, and comprising only the first letter of the alphabet, sells at half a guinea; £18,000 has, with profit, been spent upon the production of one Welsh book. The sales of one firm alone in the vernacular trade reach £36,000 per annum. The total annual value of such literature is said to amount to £200,000. The establishment of a lively *Welsh Review* (in English, it is true) in London is not the least striking sign of Cambrian vitality.

The Welsh members of Parliament sit for the most part below the gangway. There is among many of them a certain family type. They are a lighter, brighter, more boyish, alert-looking set of men than the ordinary British and Irish; by their side. Their pronunciation is somewhat labial—it has somewhat the distinctness of an acquired language. Some of these members made a distinguished stand over the Tithe Bill of last year. A measure for the disestablishment of the Church in Wales was brought forward by them this session. London and Birmingham (the one 170, the other 70 miles distant) are vying for the possession of certain Welsh watersheds, whence to draw their water-supplies. The Welsh members are fiercely watchful to guard the interests, present and prospective, of some of their own rapidly increasing centres of population, and of the present owners and inhabitants of the districts proposed to be preëmpted. In the inquiry about to be held into the financial relations of England, Scotland, and Ireland, the Welsh desire to have their interests considered apart from the rest of "England." They have this session brought in a National Institutions Bill for the principality. It proposes the appointment of a Secretary of State for Wales, the constitution of a Welsh education department, of a Welsh university and a national museum, and the creation of a national council to control waste lands, foreshores, woods and forests, railway and private bills, charities, the appointment of county-court judges, and the application of "provisional orders" to Wales. Inquiries seem to show that there is a large body of opinion in the district desirous of even greater powers—such as the appointment of magistrates.

Wales is, after all, more populous than any one of twenty-eight of the United States, and than any one of the self-governing British colonies, except Ontario. The principal supporter of this bill, Alfred Thomas, Member for East Glamorgan, declares in the course of a recent magazine article:

"My firm opinion, based on the fullest knowledge, is that the Welsh people do not desire home rule on the same lines as what has been demanded and proposed for Ireland. They will be content with something very different, and, in the view of many, more moderate. But all the same it is home rule. The great feature in the national spirit of Wales in the past is that all attempts to absorb Wales into England have only hardened and strengthened our national characteristics. And the British Empire is all the better for the tenacity with which Welshmen cling to their language and institutions, and the patriotic pride they cherish for the land of their fathers. If the National Institutions Bill, which has received endorsement from such a large number of representative Welshmen, should be passed into law, it would lay the foundation for a future development of Wales, and for such a material progress of the principality as would enable Welshmen to develop those great natural abilities which are unsurpassed by any other race or people."

However this may be, the steady current of national feeling in Wales must lead to important developments, and the solution of a "Welsh question" will doubtless before long engage the attention of Imperial Parliament.

D. B.

THE LONDON EXHIBITIONS.

London, May 2, 1892.

I WISH that I could look at the year's exhibitions in London with the fresh eyes of Mr. Charles Dudley Warner. He has but recently been telling us, in the Study in *Harper's Magazine*, that only last summer he found the desire to be striking, to astonish, to do something odd in color and composition, the distinguishing characteristics of English as well as foreign galleries. This shows the advantage of looking at pictures from the literary standpoint. Last summer it seemed to me that, from the sad level of depressing mediocrity in the London exhibitions, perhaps half-a-dozen canvases stood out with something like distinction. I should therefore be glad to hear Mr. Warner's verdict this year, when I have searched the Academy, the New Gallery, the New English Art Club in vain for one striking painting. There is not even a "picture of the year" for the crowd to gape before, like the sentimentalities of Mr. Dicksee and Mr. Fildes that made such a stir a twelvemonth ago. The universal poverty is proved by the excitement among critics over an open-air study by a certain Russian prince, exhibited in the New English Art Club show—a second-rate imitation of men like Besnard, Zorn, and Roll, but such a novelty here that it served at the Academy banquet as butt for the witticisms of Prof. S. H. Butcher, whose art criticism, founded on wide knowledge of literature and complete ignorance of art, has been hailed with rapture by the Ruskinians of the press.

The honest failure of a man seeking to solve some interesting problem of color or form, of light or atmosphere, would be a relief among the neatly turned-out exhibition pictures which fill the Academy. It is the non-existence of true artistic endeavor which is so dispiriting, the apparent willingness of exhibitors to keep on turning out regulation pieces of sentiment, landscapes and portraits, all as much of a pattern as if they were machine-made. It would be better if Americans who send to Burlington House understood that mediocre productions are practically lost in the prevailing mediocrity. Mr. Sargent does understand this, and is sure to be represented by work that tells on the Academy walls, so that his absence this year is the more conspicuous; but then Mr. Sargent is an artist and could not help being distinguished. There are others, however, who, knowing that the Academy average is proverbially low, seem content to contribute anything that happens to be in the studio. Mr. Bridgman, it is true, makes a new departure in deserting the East for a thoroughly western "Lawn Tennis Club," but unfortunately this same subject was not so long since much more cleverly treated by Mr. Lavery, one of the Glasgow group, in a picture which now hangs in the Munich Pinakothek, and which cannot soon be forgotten by those who saw it when it was exhibited in the Goupil Gallery here. Mr. F. D. Millet's "Between Two Fires," one of his carefully studied interiors, is by far the best thing of the kind in the collection; but this is not saying much, and it would have to be better still to assert itself with preëminence even in its present surroundings. One wonders if, but for his sitter, Mr. Beckwith's portrait of Mark Twain, curiously hard and leathery as it is, would have been hung at all; while Mr. Mosler scarcely does himself justice, and Mr. Shannon, if, indeed, he can be called an American, gives unpleasant signs of drifting entirely into the manufacture of fashion plates. Even Mr. Hitchcock's poppy field suggests that the painter had the Academy in view when he was at work on it. Decidedly the best showing by Americans is made by Mrs. Stanhope-Forbes—a Canadian—in her true, if somewhat perfunctory, rendering of a "Minuet" in a dimly lighted room, and Mr. F. Morley Fletcher in "The Shadow of Death," which, with its rich color and the fine lines of its composition, was no less notable when exhibited in the Salon. But not one of these contributions is either so fine a failure, or so startling a success, as to redeem the commonplaceness of the show.

Even stranger than the total lack of distinction is the fact that whatever improvement is revealed comes from within the Academical

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ranks. The pictures which are really the most interesting are the work of three or four Academicians and Associates, more especially of the latter. It is wearisome year after year to dwell on the trivialities, the crudities, the vulgarities which the many writing the magic initials after their name produce. From them nothing else has ever been expected, or if, like Sir John Millais, they once did better things, one remembers the past with regret. Only a few still continue to work successfully on the old lines. Mr. Orchardson, Mr. Henry Moore, Mr. J. W. Waterhouse send excellent variations of the old themes, about which there is absolutely nothing new to be said. Mr. Tadema's arrangement of marble and blue skies and seas, called "A Kiss," has more of that quality which gave value to his earlier classical compositions, but which is not invariably found in his later canvases. Sir Frederick Leighton's "Garden of the Hesperides"—the one noteworthy of his five contributions—is filled with the decorative stateliness and harmony which make up in a measure for his thinness of color, his weakness when he attempts realism, and the inevitable waxiness of his surfaces. And Mr. Watts is at his best in a portrait of Mr. Walter Crane in the New Gallery, rich in its sombre browns, simple and vigorous in its handling, though it is to be feared that if, like so many of his pictures, it remains long in his studio, it will suffer, as they have, from his mania for retouching and repainting. But it is really two of the youngest Associates whose work presents the most obvious justification for the existence of such an institution as the Royal Academy.

It is encouraging to find that the election of Mr. Stanhope-Forbes, the latest comer, has not been the signal for his immediate degeneracy. On the contrary, he has made a distinct step forward with "Forging the Anchor," which justly is given one of the chief centres of honor. Having begun his career brilliantly, his tendency latterly has been towards the painted-photograph effect—the ideal, apparently, of the Newlyn School. This unpleasant photographic suggestion is not wholly got rid of in his Forge, in which the Newlyn tricks of perspective—the floor running up at such an angle that it looks as if everything must slide down it—are also evident. One or two figures are superfluous, and the arrangement of light falling from a furnace to the right on a boy is a tiresome repetition of what Norwegian painters have done again and again. But when all these defects are pointed out, it must still be admitted that he has succeeded in giving the glow of the red-hot iron and the action of the men around it with a truth never yet attained by the many painters who have attempted the same problem, not even by Menzel. And this in itself is an achievement, though perhaps not the highest. Mr. David Murray is the other Associate who deserves credit for resisting the deadening influence of the Academy. Too often his landscapes are marked by a facile commonplaceness and a weak striving after Corot. But this year he has literally leaped into originality. It is still clear that Corot is his master, but he proves at last that he can adapt the master's methods to his own ends, and thus produce an artistic result; and, after all, what more can be said of the most original men? It is in his "River Road" that he shows himself most accomplished, and it seems a pity that this, the best landscape of the year, could not have been secured for the nation by the Chantrey Bequest Trustees, instead of the flaunting purple-and-white mountain meadow by Mr. MacWhirter, or Mr. Arthur Hacker's version of the Annunciation. It may be said that Mr. Murray is already represented by one canvas in the Chantrey collection, but this argument was not used in previous years against the purchase of a second work by Sir Frederick Leighton or Mr. Herkomer. And if Mr. Hacker's is a very praiseworthy effort, the object of the Chantrey Bequest is to collect good work, not good intentions. Indeed, it would be wiser to buy no pictures for a season or two than to keep on misappropriating the funds. As I write, I hear that Mr. Millet's picture has also been bought; he now enters, after Mr. Sargent, into the Gallery of British Immortals.

Outside the Academical ranks, matters are not much more cheerful. I never remember such a scarcity of passable portraits. At the Academy and New Gallery alike the walls are barren. At the latter, besides the Watts, the only portraits which attract attention are two of Paderewski, and they are being talked about not for artistic reasons, but because Princess Louise painted one and Mr. Tadema the other, and the comparison furnishes a fine text for dinner talk. At the Academy, where Mr. Herkomer shows a group which will be remembered—if remembered at all—as the most fearful and awful confusion in perspective and light, there are good portraits by Mr. Lavery and Mr. Furse, but they are so quiet in color and treatment, and are hung so badly, that it is easy to pass them by. Mr. Lavery has already made his name as a portrait-painter among people who really care for art. Mr. Furse is as yet but the careful and intelligent student of Mr. Whistler; but at the New English Art Club he has two canvases which, Whistlerian though they be in color and treatment, give promise that he may eventually come to the fore upon his own merits.

The landscapes are almost as depressing. It is pleasanter and easier to turn to the few men who have either gone in search of new impressions and effects, or who have given a new treatment of their old motives, than to point out the innumerable proofs of the English landscape-painter's misconception of his art. Mr. Alfred Parsons sends to the Academy an orchard in early springtime, in which he succeeds in getting the effect just missed in several of his late canvases; and Mr. Alfred East, who is, as a rule, too pretty and trivial out of deference to his public, this year is beginning to look at nature with his own eyes instead of those of the British picture-buyer. Mr. Noble and Mr. Corbet are always serious and sincere in their work, painting what they see and not what other people would like them to, which is no small virtue in a country where the standard of art is based upon the random word-painting of Mr. Ruskin, or the yearly votes for the best picture at Whitechapel exhibitions. I ought also to mention Mr. Muhrman and Mr. Johnstone, both Americans, who are the most original of the exhibitors at the present New English Art Club show.

It is, however, because this show has proved such a disappointment that the outlook for British art seems just now more hopeless than ever. To the members of the New English Art Club, during the last six or seven years, one has looked for that vitality, that new life, which the so-called British school of painting so sorely needs. They are young, they are enthusiastic, they are daring. But their daring has never yet led them beyond clever imitation, and in their successive exhibitions one has been forced to note a gradual falling off, until this spring they have failed to be interesting even in their echoes of other and greater artists. There is almost as little distinction here as at the Academy. Mr. Furse's portraits are exceptions because they are such clever copies of another painter's methods; Mr. Starr's, because a man of reputation, like Mr. Harold Frederic, sat to him. It is but fair to add that the water colors of Mr. Brabazon, an artist almost unknown, are the only examples in that medium in any gallery which are of the slightest importance, and that the drawings of cats by Mr. Arthur Tomson, together with a little study of the nude by Mr. George Thomson at the Academy, can alone be said to represent worthily the black-and-white work of the day.

It is to the sculpture one must go for whatever vitality exists in contemporary British art. The contrast between the sculpture and the picture galleries is enormous. The thousands of paintings are dull and lifeless; the hundreds of busts and statues and reliefs are full of character and vigor. It is clear that the painter paints to meet a passing fashion while fair prices can be commanded; that the sculptor does his work because he has something to say which can be said in no other way, by no other medium. The average is high; there is not talent only, but genius in the work that rises above it. Foremost, of course, is Mr. E. Onslow Ford's Shelley Memorial, which has been refused a place in the little graveyard under the pyramid of Caius Cestius, and will, it is likely, yet be refused admittance to the grounds of University College, Oxford, to which Lady Shelley next presented it. There is little enough encouragement for the sculptor in England; he sees the statues of second-rate men, who rejoice in court patronage, set up in the streets of London; when he ventures to allow his genius free play, when he gives proof of his originality, his work runs the risk of never finding a place outside of his own studio. Mr. Ford's design has been much talked of because of its unconventionality, because his Shelley lies extended, unclothed, undraped. But less has been said of the fine modelling of the outstretched figure, of the grace of the pose, of that touch of human pathos and feeling which is so intensely modern in sculpture, which only a few sculptors like Rodin, and Ford, and Gilbert have yet been courageous enough to express, in defiance of all tradition. Less has been said, too, of the harmony and repose of the whole design, with its winged lions in bronze supporting the marble on which the body lies, and its Muse weeping over the lyre in the centre just below the figure. Anything short of unqualified success with so unconventional a conception must have made it border on the ridiculous. The solemn impressiveness of the memorial, which strikes you more and more the longer you look upon it, can leave no doubt of Mr. Ford's triumph.

There is nothing else to be ranked with this, but there is other work of lesser importance: Mr. Gilbert's busts, large in treatment, individual in character, with here and there, in the lace ruffles or wand of some high official, the minute decorative detail of which he is a master; Mr. Harry Bates's long, narrow, low relief of Endymion and Selene, and his small silver door-knocker (for, like Mr. Gilbert, he is the accomplished decorator as well as sculptor); small bronzes by Mr. John M. Swan; examples of Mr. Frampton, Mr. Pomeroy, Mr. Pegram. But it is impossible to go through the list, not for lack, but for excess, of material. When I glance over my catalogue, I find page after page in the painting galleries with blank margins; in the two sculpture rooms there is scarce a name without an accompanying note. If only Medicis instead of Guelphs

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reigned in England, modern London could be made a fair rival of the Florence of the Renaissance. N. N.

Notes.

Mr. Charlemagne Tower, Jr., of Philadelphia, is engaged upon a work on Lafayette in the American Revolution, and will be obliged to any one possessing letters of Lafayette written during that struggle who will send copies of them to him, in care of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia.

T. Y. Crowell & Co. will publish in book form six essays on the theme, "What, if any, changes in existing plans are necessary to secure an equitable distribution of the burden of taxation for the support of national, State, and municipal governments?" Three of them won the prizes offered by the publishers of *Public Opinion* for the best essays on this question; and the other three were favorably considered.

"How to Get Good Judges" is the subject of a "study of the judicial systems of the States, with a plan for a scientific judicial system," by John A. Wright of the San Francisco bar. The volume will be published in that city by the S. Carson Company.

Ginn & Co. have in press 'Selections for Memorizing,' for school use, by Superintendents Sherman Williams and L. C. Foster; and 'Addison's Criticisms on Paradise Lost,' edited by Prof. Albert S. Cook of Yale.

Dr. George Curry's 'Manual of English History for Schools,' edited by Dr. W. J. Rolfe, will be soon brought out by Charles E. Merrill & Co.

There can be only words of welcome for the new edition of Jane Austen's novels which Roberts Bros., Boston, have begun to issue in a size convenient for the hand and in a style most agreeable to the eye. The series opens with 'Sense and Sensibility' in two volumes, each provided with a delicately designed and etched frontispiece; and this has been followed by 'Pride and Prejudice,' likewise in two volumes and illustrated. The type is clear, the binding wholly commendable for its taste. It is safe to augur a revival of popularity for these classics from their taking garb.

Swan Sonnenschein & Co., London, have added to their Social Science Series 'Principles of Social Economy,' by Yves Guyot; 'The Destitute Alien,' by Arnold White; 'The Student's Marx,' by Edward Aveling; and 'The Dawn of Radicalism,' by J. Bowles Daly, all imported by the Scribners. We may mention at the same time 'The Alien Invasion,' by W. H. Wilkins, which is published by Methuen & Co. Of these volumes the most considerable is that of M. Guyot, which, however, is more valuable for its facts than for its principles, containing much information as to the industry of the past as well as the present not hitherto conveniently accessible. But economists will be interested in examining the forms in which the author expresses the fundamentals of political economy. Mr. Daly's book is a readable presentation of various incidents in the lives of Horne, Wilkes, and other warriors in the struggle for free speech in England, and gives a view of the political history of the period. Dr. Aveling presents to students a comparatively brief analysis of a part of Marx's 'Capital,' which, considering the enormous dimensions of that work, must be commended as a "labor-saving contrivance," in spite of the obnoxious character of such inventions to the economic theories of these writers. Dr. Aveling, it may be explained, considers the work of Marx to be on a par with that of Darwin, and regards it as not doubtful that the nineteenth century will be remembered, as far as its thinking is concerned, by these two names. The two works on the immigration of aliens into Great Britain are not of a character to throw much light upon the problem involved or to aid in its solution, and can be of service only to those who desire a somewhat emotional treatment of statistical investigations.

Prof. Alfred Marshall has published through Macmillan an adaptation of the first volume of his large work to the needs of junior students, under the title, 'Elements of Economics of Industry; being the first volume of "Elements of Economics."' It is certainly to be desired that Prof. Marshall should cultivate the art of abbreviated expression, but it seems to us a mistake for him to expend his energy in adapting for young students the first part of an uncompleted work. If these students are to suspend their study of economics, after mastering this book, until the remainder of the subject has been completed and adapted for them, they must remain for a considerable time, and (*absit omen*) possibly always, with a most imperfect and unsystematized knowledge of the science.

The Swiss devices known as the "Referendum" and the "Initiative" are described by Mr. J. W. Sullivan in an essay entitled 'Direct Legislation,' issued by the Twentieth Century Publishing Co. The appearance of such a book is not without political significance, and Mr. Sullivan's collection of data is convenient to have; but he does not seem to us to make out a case for transplanting these institutions to America.

A compact manual entitled 'American Citizenship and the Right of Suffrage in the United States' has been prepared by Mr. Taliesin Evans of Oakland, Cal. The subject of citizenship in this country, State and Federal, on account of the negro and Chinese troubles and the vast immigration from every known part of the earth, is a highly complicated one, and this treatise, which is based upon statutes and judicial decisions, will be found convenient for reference.

Mr. W. M. F. Round, Secretary of the Prison Association of New York, is writing a series of "Papers for Parents," to be published by the Order of St. Christopher, No. 135 East Fifteenth Street. The wide experience of Mr. Round with young criminals has impressed upon him the responsibility of parents for much of the misbehavior of their sons, and in the first of these tracts he insists upon parental duty with so much earnestness and force as to bespeak for the whole series an extended circulation.

The Department of Political and Economic Science of the Brooklyn Institute is considering a proposition recently laid before it to establish in that city a School of Political Science, fully equipped with both elementary and advanced courses of instruction in civics, economics, sociology, and history, at merely nominal tuition rates. The Executive Committee of the Department have had the matter referred to them with power; and if sufficient financial encouragement is offered by citizens of Brooklyn and others interested in the movement, and if properly qualified instructors can be engaged, elementary courses in some or all of the subjects above named may be offered in 1892–'93.

We called attention some months ago to the proposed memorial in honor of the late Prof. von Holtzendorff of Munich. We may say again that in order to pay proper tribute to his services as an author on penal and reformatory laws and institutions, it is intended to raise a fund with which to encourage active investigations of the same subjects. A large committee has been formed, consisting of representatives of the leading public bodies engaged in the work to which Holtzendorff gave his whole life. A recent report gives a list of subscriptions thus far received, and not one appears from the United States. The whole amount collected up to date was slightly more than $3,000, and to this there have been subscriptions of $100 each from the German Lawyers' Convention, the Legal Society of Berlin, and that of Munich. The Grand Duke of Baden heads the list with $25, an anonymous subscriber gave $250, but the 193 subscriptions are mostly of very modest amounts. The list of subscribers includes representatives from Germany and France, from Sweden and Denmark, from Russia and Greece, from Switzerland and Holland, from Great Britain and Italy, from Spain and Austria.

'The Investigations of the New England Meteorological Society for 1890' have lately been issued as a reprint from the "Annals of the Harvard College Observatory," in which they have been published for several years past. The present number contains the usual tables and summary for the year, with a particular account of the cyclonic storms (or "areas of low pressure" of the weather maps) that determined New England weather. This is followed by a tabulated statement of the mean temperature and precipitation in five-year periods for all New England stations from the earliest records, by J. Warren Smith of the Weather Bureau, who for two years past has been detailed as assistant in the weather-service work of the Society. The Lawrence, Mass., tornado of July, 1890, is discussed in three chapters by W. M. Davis of Harvard College, H. H. Clayton of Blue Hill Observatory, and H. F. Mills of Lawrence. This paper is illustrated by views of the destruction caused by the tornado and by a map of its path.

The future work of the New England Meteorological Society will be limited to its meetings and investigations. The duty of collecting weather records and publishing them in monthly bulletins has been lately transferred to the National Weather Bureau of the Department of Agriculture, with the object of continuing this undertaking under the title of the New England Weather Service, whose headquarters will be in Boston. In this connection mention may be made of a conference of the officers of agricultural colleges and experiment stations held in Boston on May 5, for the purpose of coördinating their work in the best interests of applied meteorology. The subjects considered were: (1) extension of observations to be gathered and published by the New England Weather Service; (2) distribution of weather predictions furnished by the National Weather Bureau and announced by flags and other signals; (3) investigations, among which the protection of tender crops from frost received the fullest consideration. An organization of limited membership was formed, under the title of the New England Association for Applied Meteorology; Prof. G. H. Whitcher of Durham, N. H., being chosen President, and J. Warren Smith, Secretary.

Among the essays recently published in the *Forschungen zur Deutschen Landes- und Volkskunde*, is one by Dr. F. Wahnschaffe of the German Geological Survey, entitled 'Die Ursachen der Oberflächengestaltung des Norddeutschen Flachlandes.' This deals almost exclusively with the glacial deposits to which the form of the North German lowlands is so largely due. It is the best general discussion

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of the region that has yet appeared. An excellent review of the essay comes from the competent hands of Prof. R. D. Salisbury in the May number of the *American Geologist*.

A new monthly, to be called the *Republican Magazine*, is to be launched in this city next month. The editor, Mr. F. B. D. Curtis, is vouched for as a good partisan, and the arched design on the cover shows "Protection to Labor and Industry" to be the keystone of his doctrine.

The International News Company sends us *Fashions of To-day*, the London edition in English of the innovating French monthly, *La Mode Pratique*. What strikes the eye even of the uninitiated is the plates, whether colored or in the text, which are obviously from photographs of real women and children dressed for the occasion, and not the ridiculous simpering figures of the conventional fashion-plate.

Under the title, "La Comédie d'aujourd'hui," M. F. Lhomme makes a savage attack in *L'Art* for April 15 on Pierre Loti, apropos of his recent indiscreet reception address before the French Academy, in which Octave Feuillet "was so badly embalmed," his successor "having found nothing better to say of him than to compare him to himself." M. Viaud's provinciality as the cause of his bad manners is well rubbed into him, and it is predicted that his successor will find that "la saugrenuité, l'attirance et l'endeuillement," which Loti has made French words, are all that remains of him.

We learn that a tablet has been placed on the front of the old Paine house at Lewes, England. The inscription, written by Mr. Moncure D. Conway, is as follows: "Thomas Paine, b. 1737, d. 1809, author of 'Common Sense,' 'Rights of Man,' 'The Age of Reason,' a founder of American independence with pen and sword, lived in this house, as Exciseman and Tobacconist, 1768–1774."

—The fourteenth general meeting of the American Library Association just held at Lakewood, with adjournments to Baltimore and Washington, differed from previous conferences in that the short time of preparation had led the managers to decide against having papers and to arrange for introduced talks. The exclusion of papers (which, however, was not absolute, for the President's address and two or three others were read) gave great liveliness to the proceedings. Mr. Fletcher presided, as was to be expected, with vigor and snap. Discussion was interested and eager, and, notwithstanding the absence of papers, had frequently to be cut short in order to give a chance to all of the subjects set down. For there was the old difficulty of a too-crowded programme, crowded this year in part with subjects that could not be postponed—the revision of the Constitution, the World's Fair library exhibit, and the Public Documents Bill pending in Congress. The discussion of the first and last was finished, but they are not subjects that will give permanent value to the published proceedings. The second, unluckily, was little considered. With the feeling that a large body could not properly decide the details of an exhibit, the matter was referred to a committee with power to act, when a better course would have been to invite suggestions by a full discussion in committee of the whole, with the understanding that no vote should be taken. At every conference some subject has attracted chief attention. In the early times fiction was a burning question. Twice—at Washington and at San Francisco—architecture has taken the lead. On one occasion Poole's Index was born, or rather reborn; on another, Fletcher's Essay Index; on another, the A. L. A. Catalogue—a project for a select annotated list of books suitable for a small library, which roused the greatest enthusiasm, but which, for want of a worker who could devote a great deal of time to it, has never come to anything. The publishing section, which, with limited means, has done a little excellent work, was instituted at Milwaukee. The proper distribution of public documents to public libraries shared with architecture the attention of the San Francisco meeting. At Fabyan's the coöperation of trustees was enlisted, and steps were enthusiastically taken to raise an endowment fund for publication. This year Mr. George Iles proposed that a committee of the Association should select, from publications announced as forthcoming, books for review, send them, if possible, sheet by sheet as printed, to competent and just reviewers for the preparation of a short critical notice to be printed on a card or cards following the title-card in the library catalogue. This note he would have state whether the book is elementary or advanced, compare it with others in the same field, telling wherein it is better or not so good, and note important errors. At the same time a fuller review should be prepared for simultaneous issue in a syndicate of newspapers throughout America.

—Mr. Iles sees several advantages in his plan, and first an increase in the responsibility of authorship; for though reviews biassed by friendship or enmity or interest, or simply irresponsible and incompetent, will still continue to appear, here, he hopes, will be a body of criticism to which the serious public will turn more and more for guidance. There would, too, be an increase in the responsibility of reviewing, from the signature of the reviews; and, most important of all, there would be an increase in the result of study and research, because it would be easier to confine them to really valuable books, and the time wasted in finding out what is valuable would be lessened. Better books would be selected by the reader from the stock in the library, and better books would be bought by the librarian with less expenditure of time. Moreover, these notice-cards distributed to libraries would constitute a select bibliography of each subject, and would guide purchase when at any future time it should become possible to fill up gaps in the library's collections. The greatest gain, however, would be for students, enabling them to see quickly which are the best books on their subjects. Of course, if the scheme should succeed for current literature, it would lead to going over past productions, and the result would in effect be the publication at last of the much-desired and long-delayed A. L. A. Catalogue. Unhappily, such a work cannot be performed for love alone, nor would author or publisher consent to the piecemeal publication of a work, nor would impartial reviews be procurable if signed, nor would they be written on this condition by the most competent experts, nor is the editorial discrimination capable of assigning so vast a range of works to the proper critics a common possession. In short, we must regard the scheme as purely Utopian. A far simpler plan would be to select a half-dozen leading critical Reviews, and record on the title-card their judgment as pro or con, in the manner of our pronouncing dictionaries. The next Conference will be held at Chicago in July. It is hoped that it will be international. Many English librarians have spoken of coming, and undoubtedly at least commissioners will be present from Germany, Italy, and France.

—The annual report of the Providence Public Library, just published, gives some reason for the belief that an important change in the use of public libraries is gradually taking place. Mr. Foster's statistics show that the number of books circulated has increased during the past year. An examination of the figures reveals the fact that this increase is wholly in the books consulted in the library, and that the number taken for home use has fallen off more than a thousand. This fact by itself would be of slight importance, but an examination of the report of the Boston Public Library adds materially to its significance. In this latter institution the number of books taken for home use has decreased during the year by more than 100,000, apparently a full tenth of the average circulation. This was equally true of the central library and of all its branches, the deficit ranging from a little more than 1,000 in the Roxbury branch to more than 40,000 in the Lower Hall, although there was an increase of more than 17,000 volumes used in the Bates Hall (not taken from the building). It is impossible to tell whether the "hall use" of the branches has increased, as the practice now prevails of including under this head the newspapers and magazines read. By this questionable means, it may be noted here, the sum total of the circulation is swelled to an extraordinary amount. By comparison with the figures in the report for 1889, it will nevertheless be evident that the true amount of the circulation of the library was, not, as would naturally be inferred from the report, 1,812,432, but about a million. These facts seem clearly to show that both this library and, in a far less degree, that at Providence are being gradually used less by the people at large and more by scholars and persons making special researches. This may be accounted for in two ways: the reading of magazines and papers is probably largely taking the place of book-reading, and it may also be a fact that too great a proportion of the library funds is used for the purchase of books for special students, to the neglect of the legitimate demand for popular books, not fiction. It would be interesting to learn from the Boston Public Library, with its liberal practice of purchasing books on request, whether in this particular it treats the general reader and the specialist impartially.

—It would be easy to dilate on the contents of the sumptuous quarto volume entitled 'The History of the Centennial Celebration of the Inauguration of George Washington as First President of the United States' (D. Appleton & Co.). Two-thirds of its 551 pages of text is taken up with the narrative, by several hands, of the inception and conduct of the brilliant celebration in this city in 1889. Introductory to this is a straightforward account, with many original documents, of the ratification of the Constitution, the slow gathering of the First Congress, the election of Washington and Adams, their respective journeys, amid popular demonstrations, to New York, and the inaugural ceremony, from the pen of Mr. Clarence W. Bowen, the editor of the volume; and a second chapter, involving even greater labor, of biographical sketches of the members of the First Congress, compiled by Mr. Paul Leicester Ford. These hundred pages are profusely illustrated with heliotype portraits in a most interesting variety, and so are the pages which follow, not to speak of numerous cuts and plates of historic buildings and relics, to which belong the fifth chapter, on the Loan Exhibition of portraits and relics at the Metropolitan

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Opera-house, by Mr. William A. Coffin, the efficient manager. From the galleries and cases of this unrivalled collection a large part of the material for illustration was obtained, but much had to be sought abroad. Nearly 150 pages of notes on the portraits, by the editor, and an admirable index in 121 pages by Mr. Robert H. Kelby of the New York Historical Society, complete the work, which the Messrs. Appleton have printed, without profit to themselves, in a noble style, and made a monument of the mechanic art of the day. The History itself preserves for posterity one of the few occasions on which New Yorkers feel the existence of a civic and a public spirit not quite submerged by an alien population and a government by the dangerous classes for the dangerous classes. It also worthily embalms the discourse of Bishop Potter, recalling forgotten standards of official honor and official trust as exemplified for all time by the first President of the Republic.

—Mr. Bowen's notes on the portraits deserve very high praise. He enumerates at the outset the series here reproduced, as far as possible from originals, showing a total of nearly 550. Of these there are 208 which represent 78 of the 96 members of the First Congress—a very remarkable proportion to be thus commemorated, and indicative, it may fairly be said, of the station and quality of the public men in question. There are 80 portraits of great ladies of the time. Washington's face is repeated 29 times, Jefferson's 21, Hamilton's 16, Adams's 14; but Franklin's 53. Mr. Bowen wisely refrains from any attempt to pronounce on the value as likenesses of this vast array of paintings and statuary, but the grouping enables one to discover the mannerisms of the more prolific artists, like Trumbull, Stuart, and C. W. Peale, and to form a judgment as to their respective ability and credibility. For the rest, he cites a good deal of family testimony and tradition, which may be taken for what it is worth. Noticeable is Josiah Quincy's well-grounded opinion that Savage's portraits of Washington, though not the best art, were the best likenesses. It is a pity that the display adopted in the notes on Washington, by which each portrait is named in order and in a line by itself, so that it is easy to turn back to the print of it, was not observed throughout; especially as so many more portraits are recorded in the notes than are exhibited in heliotype. A final word must be given to the instantaneous "process" views in the text, which will transmit to posterity the features, figures, presence, and action of the dignitaries of the present day, from President Harrison down, together with the contemporary aspect of the harbor and streets of New York, the shipping, etc., etc. All concerned in this laborious production should regard it with satisfaction and receive for it the grateful acknowledgments of their fellow-citizens.

—Prof. H. Tallichet sends us a pamphlet, reprinted from part iv. of *Dialect Notes*, entitled "A Contribution towards a Vocabulary of Spanish and Mexican Words Used in Texas." He has collected the words "among people, mostly Americans, who had spent most of their life in the State—surveyors, cattlemen, prospectors, land agents, and old settlers on the border, who used the words introduced as they would words already naturalized in English." The result is an enumeration of something like 175 words, almost all of which relate to the commoner points of contact between the receding Mexican and the advancing English element. Thus there are many names of ordinary plants and animals, many others referring to the processes of agriculture (particularly horse and cattle-breeding) and to housekeeping, and a goodly proportion to weapons and the ruder forms of justice. In fact, the vocabulary is highly suggestive of the degree of civilization and the terms of intercourse of the two races at the time when the *lingua franca* sprang into being of which the remains on the American side are here given. As regards pronunciation, Prof. Tallichet appears to be under some misapprehension in respect to the variations from the recognized Spanish standard which are common in Mexico, and, indeed, in all Spanish America, and so to have attributed some corruptions to Texas which really have their origin elsewhere. For instance, the elision of *d*, especially between two vowels, the sharp sound given to *c* and *z* before *e* and *i*, and the sounding of *ll* like *y*, are each the ordinary thing in all Spanish America. They are peculiarities of the Andalusian dialect, and point to the fact that the majority of the early Spanish explorers and settlers came from the southern provinces of Spain. *Tresillo* is called "a Mexican game of cards," but Mexico probably took it from Spain, where it has long been a common and popular game. Under *Zopilote* (turkey buzzard), we read "the national bird of Mexico." This is rather hard on those Mexican designers who have had no better luck, it seems, in representing *their* eagle than our own artists who turned out our "buzzard dollars." Prof. Tallichet can never have seen those filthy scavengers of Vera Cruz which are known as "zopilotes." His contribution, however, is one of great interest and real value.

McMASTER'S THIRD VOLUME.

A History of the People of the United States from the Revolution to the Civil War. By John Bach McMaster. In five volumes. Vol. III. D. Appleton & Co. 1892.

At the inception of his projected 'History of the People of the United States,' to be comprised in five volumes, Prof. McMaster assured us that while much in the course of his narrative must needs be written about wars, conspiracies, and rebellions, about Presidents, Congresses, embassies, and the rise or fall of great parties in the nation, yet the history of "the people" would be his "chief theme," and that at every stage of the progress "which separates the America of Washington and Adams from the America in which we live," it would be the author's purpose to describe "the dress, the occupations, the amusements, the literary canons of the times; to note the changes of manners and morals; to trace the growth of that humane spirit which abolished imprisonment for debt and reformed the discipline of prisons and jails," etc., etc. In the volume before us, the third in his projected series, the writer brings his narrative down to the outbreak of the war of 1812 with England, thus allowing himself, according to his plan, only two volumes in which to recount the political and social history of the eventful period which extends from 1812 to 1860. It becomes plain, in the presence of this fact, that there is some defect in the original projection of the work, or that there will be some want of symmetry and ensemble in its execution.

Indeed, the want of symmetry and ensemble becomes apparent in the volume before us, devoting in it, as the writer does, so much more attention to the purely political than to the distinctively social aspects of American history. This inversion of the author's original purpose seems only the less necessary in view of the fact that, on the political side, he travels over the same ground which has been so carefully and critically covered by Mr. Henry Adams in his copious history of the same period. Mr. Adams does his work so thoroughly that little more than a slender sheaf can be expected to reward the industry of the gleaner who follows him in quest of new materials, while, if regard be had exclusively to a political appreciation of the same facts, the views of the two historians, so far as we can discern, would seem to be generally coincident.

It is certain that this coincidence of opinion comes to expression in the judgment pronounced by each on the resultant tendencies of the two great political parties which divided public sentiment in the United States from the formation of the Constitution to the end of Jefferson's first term. Prof. McMaster sees as clearly as Mr. Adams that, with the opening of the new century, there came "what, in the toasts of the day, was fondly called the triumph of democratic principles." He sees, too, with Mr. Adams, that "it was a real triumph, and not a mere party success; that new ideas did take hold on the minds of men; that new truths were discovered; that society did go forward; that a great reform in manners, in customs, in institutions, in laws was under way; and that the day when there should be in this country a government of the people, by the people, was beginning to break." Yet he seems to hold with Mr. Adams that this *avénement* of the American democracy was poorly expressed in the administrative measures of President Jefferson, and that if a fusion of the Federalist and the Republican parties had been practically effected at the close of Jefferson's first term, it was a fusion which should be ascribed "not merely to the republicanizing of the Federalists, but to the federalizing of the Republicans." "After the lapse of four years [under Jefferson], the Government," says Prof. McMaster, "was as Federal in principle as it had been in the days of the Black Cockade and the 'Addressers.' Never was the Constitution more broadly construed than when the Judiciary Act was repealed and the purchase of Louisiana effected. Never was the Executive power more extended than when Jefferson was given despotic sway over the Territory of Orleans. Never was the Constitution more impudently disregarded than on the day when one rate of tonnage duty was laid on the ports of Louisiana and a very different one on the ports of the States."

Mr. Adams reminds us, in his 'Life of Albert Gallatin,' that in recent times there has been a general disposition to explain away and to soften down the opinions and passions of party contention in the United States during the Administration of John Adams. But he insists that such a treatment of history "makes both parties ridiculous," and he further reminds us that the two brilliant men, Hamilton on the one side and Jefferson on the other, who then led the two great divisions of national thought, were not mere declaimers; that they never for a moment misunderstood each other; that they were both in deadly earnest, and that each saw that no compromise ever was or ever would be possible between them. "Jefferson meant that the American system should be a democracy, and he would rather have let the world perish than that this principle, which to him represented all that man was worth, should fail. Hamilton considered democracy a fatal

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curse, and meant to stop its progress." Where there was such a marked antithesis between the typical Federalism of Hamilton and the typical Republicanism of Jefferson, and where it is now so easy to see that the latter was working with the tendencies of the future, it would seem that Prof. McMaster, in confining himself more strictly to the special motive of his work, might have shown that these tendencies, as then manifested, were social and evolutionary rather than purely political, since they did not come to full effect in the purely administrative measures of the man who, above all others, was their professed exemplar. In this direction there was room for a really luminous *aperçu* which might have shed much useful light on the real significance of Jeffersonian Democracy. As it is, we are landed by Prof. McMaster in a sort of *cul-de-sac*, where we are told on one page that the "triumph of Democratic principles at the opening of the present century was a real triumph, and not a mere party success," while on another page we are told that, at the close of Jefferson's first term, "scarcely a Federal institution was missed, and not a Federal principle had been condemned." Such a summarizing of principles is a little too summary.

And sometimes in summarizing the substance of legislative debates on a topic of contention between the two parties, Prof. McMaster hardly does full justice to the respective attitude of each, not at all from any want of candor, but from want of care in making his abstracts. We were especially struck with this want of care in noting his abstract of the debate had in Congress on the proceedings taken to give effect to the Louisiana purchase and to provide for the temporary government of the new Territory. The Federalists had especially inveighed against the constitutionality of the seventh article of the treaty with France, which provided that for twelve years French and Spanish merchant ships should be allowed to enter the port of New Orleans "without being subject to any other or greater duty on merchandise, or other and greater tonnage, than paid by citizens of the United States." The Federalists denounced this article as being in palpable violation of the provision in the Constitution that "no preference shall be given by any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one State over those of another." It was charged, and truly charged, that this regulation gave a "preference" to French and Spanish ships entering the port of New Orleans over French and Spanish ships entering the port of New York or Boston; because at the latter the tariff duties and tonnage rates prescribed by law continued to be enforced, to the comparative disadvantage of Northern and Eastern commerce. Prof. McMaster tells us that the Republicans sought to parry the force of this objection by alleging that "the Constitution is made for the States and not for the Territories"; that "it does not extend to the Territories," and that a "preference" inhibited as to "the ports of *one State* over those of another" did not carry with it a like inhibition as to a port in *one of the Territories*.

It was impossible that the Republicans should have argued that "the Constitution did not extend to the Territories," when, as Prof. McMaster shows, they argued that Congress, under the Constitution, had plenary power over the Territories. And they made more than a merely technical defence of the "preference" given to the port of a "Territory." It was a preference, they said, given by treaty stipulation and not by Congressional enactment; it was a preference given in exception to statute law and not in violation of the Constitution; and, finally, considered as a preference given to the port of a *Territory*, it wrought no disparagement to the common weal, because the Territories were the common property of the United States—a public stock in which they all had a common share. Moreover, it was argued by John Randolph, in his usual *tu-quoque* and nagging style, that the mouths of the Federalists were stopped on this score, as in their support of Jay's treaty they had given their assent to this pretension of the treaty-making power in its extremest form, seeing that the third article of that treaty gave a "preference" to the ports of certain *States* adjacent to Canada over the ports of other *States*.

The author, as was to be expected, continues to make a plentiful use of contemporary newspapers and of pamphlet literature as sources of his history. Duane's *Aurora*, the Scioto *Gazette*, the Alexandria *Expositor*, figure in the foot-notes side by side with the 'Anas' of Jefferson, with the 'Cabinet Memoranda,' with the 'Annals of Congress.' We do not at all object to the use of these sources. It is only to the too uncritical use of them that we sometimes feel tempted to take exception. It may be well that the gravity of history should be sometimes relieved by picturesque descriptions like those which are here drawn from the newspapers: to tell us how, in the month of September, 1804, one of the most terrible cyclones which have ever visited our coast appeared at the Bahamas on the 5th of that month; how two days later it struck Charleston and passed up the seaboard to Maine; how "spires of churches, roofs of houses, trees, buildings, went down before it"; how "stage-coaches were overturned, ships were beaten to pieces, docks and warehouses destroyed, and half the rice crop and what little the caterpillar had left of the cotton was destroyed"; how "Fort Greene, off Savannah, was all but blown away"; how "a cannon weighing two tons was moved forty feet, a bar of lead weighing three hundred pounds was moved a hundred feet, and the whole of Cockspur Island was covered with muskets"; how "the water was banked up till it was ten feet deeper at low tide than it ever had been at high tide"; how, "when the floods went down, Gunboat No. 1 was left high and dry in a cornfield eight miles from her moorings"; how the commanders of gunboats were thereafter cautioned by the Federalist wits to "beware of cornfields," and how, at a great dinner given to Rufus King, in Boston, the merry symposiarch set the table in a roar with a toast to "Gunboat No. 1—If our gunboats are of no use upon the water, may they at least be the best upon earth." In the case of newspaper chronicles like these, no harm is done to the essential "truth of history" if the cannon lifted by the cyclone might have weighed a little less than two tons, or if it was moved a little less than forty feet. It relieves the tedium of pedestrian prose to know that the newspaper wags of the time sometimes "dropped into poetry" over the humors of the embargo; that one writer thought it ought to be called the "Dambargo"; that one read it backwards and got the phrase, "O-grab-me"; that another made an anagram of it and got from it the "mobrage" which it was so well fitted to produce.

The Tory reviewers of *Blackwood* complained, we remember, of the too free use which Macaulay made of song and ditty in compiling the praises of King William. But it seems to us entirely proper that the historian of a people should make requisition for his historic contingents on newspaper scraps, on popular facetiæ, on electioneering cries, on *quicquid agunt homines*, so far as they can furnish a genuine contribution to the age and body of the time. But where statements of alleged fact are made which, instead of moving in "local color," are seen to involve grave reflections on public or private character, it is obvious that the chronicles of the newspaper must be carefully sifted and conscientiously verified before they are allowed to enter into the staple of the narrative. Prof. McMaster, we are sure, has sedulously sought to observe this canon of historical criticism. But it seems to us that he sometimes follows "the Froudes and Macaulays of the press" a little too incautiously. For instance, in writing down Judge Harry Innes (his name should be so spelled and not "Innis") as a Kentuckian who, in 1806, "had long been a pensioner of Spain; who had been as deep as Wilkinson in the Spanish plot, and had been charged with conspiracy by the *Western World*," Prof. McMaster not only indulges in an anti-climax, but gives the imprimatur of history to two counts of an indictment which were never proved, if they were ever distinctly formulated in the newspaper controversies of the day. We suppose ourselves to be pretty familiar with the charges brought against Judge Innes by John Wood, the editor of the *Western World*, and by Humphrey Marshall, the historian of Kentucky; and we can easily believe, with Judge Bibb, an eye and ear-witness in the discussions of that period, that Judge Innes yielded too far to the temper of his times, and to the warmth of his friendship for Judge Sebastian, a convicted "pensioner of Spain." But in view of the fact that Innes declined "unequivocally" to engage in the Spanish plot in 1797, and then declared, when approached with an offer from the Spanish agent, that he would not be concerned, "either directly or indirectly, in any attempt that may be made to separate the western country from the United States," we think the reader is entitled to ask what authority there is for now placing a stigma upon him as one who in 1806 "had long been a pensioner of Spain." Judge Innes, it is known, in view of the charge that he had at one time been engaged in the Spanish plot, asked the Kentucky Legislature to call officially for an investigation of his conduct by the constituted authorities of the United States; and when the matter was thus officially brought to the notice of the popular branch of Congress, the committee to whom it was referred made report that the accusation was not sustained by sufficient proofs to call for further procedure.

We have been specially pleased with the sixteenth chapter of this volume, in which Prof. McMaster describes the uses that have been made of the public lands in the United States; with the seventeenth chapter, in which he celebrates the spread of democratic ideas under our system of government; and with the twenty-second chapter, in which he portrays with much detail the economic state of the people from the close of the Revolution to the end of Jefferson's first term. We are at a loss, however, to perceive what relevancy the last twelve pages of this twenty-second chapter can be said to have to the rubric under which they are placed, when, describing, as they do, the Indian wars of the period at the West and at the South, they might have more appropriately served as a preface to the next chapter, in which the Government is described as "making ready for war" with England.

The proof-reading of the volume, in spite of

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the list of "errata" with which it is accompanied, leaves much to be desiderated on the score of accuracy. Where reference is made to the Disunion essays of "Pelham, Gustavus, and Raleigh" in the *Connecticut Courant* of 1797 and later, we presume that "Raleigh" is miswritten for "Burleigh," a famous Disunion pseudonym in that journal. The name of Thomas Pinckney, our Minister at London under Washington, is misspelled "Thomas Pinkney," and the name of William Pinkney, our Minister at London under Jefferson, is sometimes spelled correctly and sometimes misspelled "William Pinckney." The name of James Sloan on page 230 is elongated into "Sloane" on page 235. On page 552 we are told that the Federalists of Dedham, Massachusetts, at a Fourth of July celebration, toasted Jefferson as "Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin," and Madison as "Nadab, the son of Jeroboam, who walked in the way of his father." A few lines lower down we find Madison, as "Nadab," changed by the historian into Madison, the "Nahob" of the Dedham Federalists!

WAGNERIANA.

Wagner as I Knew Him. By Ferdinand Praeger. Longmans, Green & Co. Pp. 334.

Richard Wagner; A Sketch of His Life and Works. By Franz Muncker. Translated from the German by D. Landman. Revised by the Author. Illustrations by Heinrich Nisle. Bamberg: Buchner. 1891. Pp. iv, 106.

FERDINAND PRAEGER, who was a personal friend of Wagner's for over a quarter of a century, died eight months ago, before he had been able to put the finishing touches to his reminiscences. He was himself a prolific, if a minor, composer (The "Praeger Album" contains forty-eight of his pianoforte pieces, and among his MSS. are as many as thirty-six sonatas), but, like many of his class, he will be remembered chiefly by his contributions to criticism and biography. Although he was born in the same city as Wagner, and only two years later, the two never met personally until Wagner went to London, in 1855, to conduct the Philharmonic concerts. Praeger had been in that city for twenty years, busy as a teacher and with his pen, one of the papers which he supplied with London letters being Schumann's *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik*. He had long enjoyed a special source of information about Wagner, namely, the revolutionary Roeckel, Wagner's most intimate friend in Dresden, who was locked up for thirteen years—a fate which Wagner would have shared had he not escaped by what he himself describes as a mere accident. Long before he knew Wagner, Praeger corresponded with Roeckel, whose letters, printed in this volume, throw some new light on an important episode in Wagner's life.

Praeger's book begins at the beginning of this life. Less than half of it (from page 218) is devoted to a narrative of Praeger's personal experiences with Wagner, and the title of it might, therefore, be called a misnomer, were it not for the fact that the well-known biographic facts which take up the first seventeen chapters are interlarded with various anecdotes related to Praeger by Wagner himself, and not embodied in the biographies of Glasenapp, Jullien, Dannreuther, and others. Now is the anecdote (p. 17) about Wagner's reckless escapade in climbing through a ventilator on to the school-house roof to get a cap which a classmate, in his joy at an unexpected holiday, had thrown up. Later in life, "the roof of the Kreuzschule was not infrequently referred to by me; and when Wagner proposed some venturesome undertaking, I would say, 'You are on the roof again.' 'Ah, but I shall get safely down again, too,' was the answer, accompanied by his pleasant, boyish laughter." A charming glimpse of Wagner's domestic character is given on the following page, where Praeger justly attaches a biographic significance to the scene in which *Siegfried* asks *Mime*, "Who was my mother?" "Every allusion to his mother in this scene is expressed in the orchestra with an ethereal refinement and originality of conception to which one finds no parallel in the whole range of music of the past. I verily believe that Richard Wagner never loved any one so deeply as his 'liebes Mütterchen.' All his references to her of his childhood period were of affection amounting almost to idolatry."

Wagner worshipped other women besides his mother, but his recorded love affairs are not as numerous as those of some other composers, chiefly, perhaps, because he married at the early age of twenty-three. Yet the actress Minna Planer, whom he married, was not his first love. That distinction belongs to a Jewess of rare Oriental beauty, named Leah David. The unprepossessing appearance of the Polish Jews who came to trade in Leipzig had inspired Wagner early in life with an aversion towards that race, but the beautiful Leah for the time changed all that. Wagner frequently called at her house, where his passion was hardly suspected, he being looked upon as a mere boy. One day, at a soirée musicale, a young Dutchman, a cousin of Leah, played on the piano. He had technical skill and little else, but was nevertheless overwhelmed with flattery. This aroused the jealousy of Wagner, who launched out about "absence of soul," etc., and, on being laughed at, wound up with some rude remarks and left the house. The next day he received a letter from the young Jewess, announcing her engagement to his rival. It would be absurd, however, to suppose that this disappointment had anything to do with Wagner's subsequent notorious writings on "Judaism in Music." Praeger devotes a whole chapter, a very sensible one, to this question, and, while showing wherein Wagner went too far, he nevertheless points out and proves that never was charge more groundless than that which attributed Wagner's attacks on Jewish composers, especially Meyerbeer, to jealousy born of anger at the success of his rivals. After quoting one of his paragraphs on Meyerbeer, Praeger says:

> "This criticism upon Meyerbeer is caustic and unsparing. Yet even now public opinion has testified to its veracity. It is not making too bold a statement to say that no musician of taste, no musician—it matters not of what nationality or school—of to-day will accord Meyerbeer that exalted position he occupied when Wagner had the temerity to show the sham and unreal art in the man."

To which may be added that nothing, surely, could be more ridiculous and dishonest than the postulates of certain critics that Wagner should not have criticised Meyerbeer's music unfavorably, because that composer had aided him a little in getting his "Rienzi" accepted at Dresden. Gratitude is a virtue, but justice is above it.

The most valuable chapters in Praeger's book relate to the revolution in Dresden and to Wagner's four months in London in 1855. Praeger's account of the Dresden insurrection is much fuller and more graphic than those given in Glasenapp and Jullien, and the following incident, which was told to Praeger by Hainberger, and subsequently corroborated by Wagner, is new:

> "It was in the morning, about eight o'clock; the barricade at which Wagner and Hainberger were stationed was about to receive such morning meal as had been prepared, the outposts being kept by a few men and women. Among the latter was a young girl of eighteen, the daughter of a baker belonging to this particular barricade. She stood in sight of all, when, to their amazement, a shot was suddenly heard, a piercing shriek, followed by the fall of the girlish patriot. The miscreant Prussian soldier, one of a detachment in the neighborhood, was caught red-handed and hurried to the barricade. Wagner seized a musket, and, mounting a cart, called out aloud to all: 'Men, will you see your wives and daughters fall in the cause of our beloved country and not avenge their cowardly murder? All who have hearts, all who have the blood and spirit of their forefathers, follow me, and death to the tyrant!'"

The two chapters on Wagner's life in London are of especial interest as showing the true character of the man; for, while in London, Wagner spent much of his time with Praeger, who became a sort of Boswell and host for the time, and minutely noted all his peculiarities: his love of animals, his sincere hatred of sham and commonplace in art, his contempt for fashion in dress and conduct, combined at the same time with a curious love of silks and finery. In a letter to Praeger, Wagner once wrote: "I am luxurious, prodigal, and extravagant; much more than Sardanapalus and all the old emperors put together." Praeger breaks a lance for Wagner's first wife, who, he thinks, has been somewhat misrepresented by biographers. He gives also the programmes with full details of the seven Philharmonic concerts that Wagner conducted in London, including some very amusing criticisms from the leading newspapers. The *Musical World*, for instance, found that "Wagner is not a musician at all," while the *Sunday Times* calls him "a desperate charlatan," adding: "In composition it would be a scandal to compare him with the men of reputation this country possesses." To fully understand the fun of this, one must know that at that time Wagner had already almost completed half of his Trilogy. But to him it was no fun, and he had to console himself with the sympathy and admiration of the Queen, a few personal friends, and a part of the public.

It is no depreciation of Praeger's efforts to say that the most valuable pages in his book are those which contain the numerous letters to him by Wagner here printed for the first time. One of the shortest (p. 315) is also one of the most interesting, for it implies that King Ludwig helped to suggest in Wagner's mind the idea of his last tragedy, "Parsifal": "The King loves me with a love beyond description. . . . He is so strikingly handsome that he might pose as the King of the Jews (and—this in confidence—I am seriously reflecting on the Christian tragedy; possibly something may come of it)."

About a year ago we called attention to the German original of Muncker's little work, and commended the admirable manner in which it combines biography and criticism in a concise sketch of the composer's career as a man and an artist. Prof. Muncker has a far more terse and lucid style than the great majority of German authors, and the translation of his writings into a foreign tongue ought to present no difficulties. The English version now before us has evidently not been done by a person "to the manner born." Not only is the wrong word often used, as "portent" for *import* in

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the sentence beginning, "Of what portent is this fact" (p. 37), but the construction is uniformly clumsy, and many-jointed Germanisms stretch their unwieldy length and sprawl over every page. A collector of linguistic curiosities would find here some queer specimens of solecisms illustrative of English, if not "as she is spoke," at least as it ought not to be written. On the very first page of the preface, Glasenapp's Life of Wagner is spoken of as "an *exhausting* book." Such sentences as "a mythically coquettish and catholicly frivolous tendency," "the idea of the original, from all tendencies unmarred folk-legend," "the general, in some of its parts already detailed plan," and "the, by Wagner's opponents unmeritedly exaggerated essay on the jews," are of constant occurrence. This excessive literalness not only obscures the sense and makes the book dreadfully hard reading, but sometimes actually reverses the author's meaning, as, for example, when on p. 20 *nichts weniger als* is rendered "nothing less than" instead of "anything but." The use of small initials instead of capital letters in proper names and adjectives, such as "jews," "german," "french," "european," "viennese," produces an odd and decidedly unpleasant effect. Qualifying phrases are, as a rule, far too remote from the verbs which they are intended to modify: "he set a text-book, which he himself had written, to music"; "he understood to reproduce the atmosphere of sultry sensuality, which lies over the Venusberg, in a masterly manner"; "eyes turned longlingly to France, where the revolutionary war, for some time already, was raging against all, that until now in state and society, in religion, art and science had appeared as law." Surely, it were easy to avoid awkward and often ambiguous constructions of this sort, which even the veriest tyro in literature ought not to commit.

On the whole, Landman's translation is faithful and generally intelligible, and will serve a useful purpose as a source of trustworthy and interesting information to the hosts of American and English tourists, who now make periodical pilgrimages to the *caaba* of Wagnerism in the capital city of the former Franconian margravate. The zincographic illustrations, more than thirty in number, comprise portraits of Wagner at different periods of his life, views of the principal houses in which he lived, facsimiles of his handwriting, and of the original score of the "Walküre," a plan of the Bayreuth Theatre, and numerous sketches of the stage scenery of the "Nibelungen" and "Parsifal." These illustrations are the same as those in the German original, but superior to them in artistic execution. There is no table of contents, and the index is not as full as it ought to be, but even this is an improvement on the German volume, which lacks both.

NEW NOVELS.

Grania: the Story of an Island. By the Hon. Emily Lawless. 2 vols. London: Smith, Elder & Co.; New York: Macmillan. 1892.

Jonquille, or The Swiss Smuggler. Translated from the French of T. Combe, by Beatrix L. Tollemache. London: Percival & Co.

Eline Vere. Translated from the Dutch of Louis Couperus, by J. T. Grein. With an introduction by Edmund Gosse. D. Appleton & Co.

San Salvador. By Mary Agnes Tincker. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

A Capillary Crime, and Other Stories. By F. D. Millet. Harper & Bros.

Miss Lawless has again established her claim to take foremost place among living delineators of Irish life and character. It is refreshing to be able to read through an Irish story without once so much as finding mentioned constabulary, Nationalist, Orangemen, or Land Leaguers. It is a relief in a book relating to the Islands of Aran (to which a map is prefixed), to find that no attempt is made to impose upon us archæological or topographical disquisitions regarding that richest mine of archæology in the United Kingdom. Archæology, scenery, maps, and descriptions, are alone meant to serve the story. In view of Miss Lawless's family predilections (the sister of one of the noblemen who have been in bitterest conflict with the Land movement), the extraordinary fairness of her 'Story of Ireland' has already been commented upon in our columns. 'Hurrish' and 'With Essex in Ireland' still further displayed the same qualities of mind. It appears to us that the present is her ablest work, and, acquainted as we are more or less with the islands, we have read her volumes with unmixed admiration. It would be easy to point out minor mistakes and shortcomings; we might desire that some of the descriptive passages had been somewhat curtailed; but, taken as a whole, the work is admirable, and the author's conceptions of character are true and lifelike. Amid the mists, the storms and sunshine that envelope those far islands, those masses of gray rock, with their superb scenery on island and mainland; amid vestiges of the successive waves of civilization from remotest times, Irish peasants of our day are made to live and move with a truth and fidelity seldom surpassed. The story is of the simplest. The characters are few. There is no plot. We have, it is true, one catastrophe, doubtless suggested by an overwhelming bereavement which notoriously came to the author while the story was in progress. No one could read of the sweet, fierce Grania, of the saintly self-abnegation of Honor, of the bombastic selfishness of Murdoch, the noble gentlemanliness of the elder Durane, without deeper sympathy being evoked for the Irish peasantry and a better understanding of their modes of thought and their lives being impressed upon the mind; and this all without apparent intention or attempt to draw a moral. Therein lies the especial merit of the work. Sad the story is, as are all true stories relating to Ireland. What there is of abiding joy and satisfaction in the lives of persons of the class depicted, we cannot know until one of them arises to explain to us upon what such joy and satisfaction are based. Perhaps we have the key in Honor's life; in the delineation of her character we may the better understand what Catholicism has been and is to the masses of the Irish people:

"She was at last upon the verge of that looked-for, that intensely desired country; a country which, if to most of us it seems but a dream within a dream, a floating mirage, a phantom made up of love and faith, of hope and of yearning desire—unthinkable, untenable, all but impossible—was to Honor, and is to such as Honor, no phantom, no mirage, but the soberest and solidest of solid realities; the thing for which they live, the hope for which they die. . . . Already, even while the priest stood beside her, while the prayers she had so longed for, those prayers which Grania had died to obtain for her, were being uttered, she was drifting across its borderland; already its sounds rather than his voice, rather than any earthly voices, were in her ears; already her foot was upon its threshold. And upon that threshold, perhaps — who knows? who can tell?—they met."

We trust Miss Lawless will continue true to her genius, in exercising which she is, perhaps all unconsciously, doing more than most persons whose names are before the world in attracting intelligent sympathy towards Ireland; and in there reconciling class to class.

The struggle of a vigorous nature against the fettering limitations of its environment is a fascinating study. In the development of the tragedy so often involved in such a struggle, much depends upon the writer's temperament, which necessarily modifies his insight, and sometimes leads him to bring about complications that cause a feeling of revulsion on the part of the reader. No such effect, however, is produced by the reading of 'Jonquille.' While true to the legitimate requirements of the characters he has created, the author is free from morbidness, and the story is developed naturally and reaches its conclusion inevitably. The style is simple and dignified, and brightened by touches which show an intimate acquaintance with Nature and a sympathetic comprehension of the effect of her varying moods upon human souls.

The borderland between France and Switzerland is the scene of the story. In one of the Swiss villages of the Jura lived Manuel, the son of a watchmaker, whose restless mind, and physique altogether out of proportion to the uses of his inherited trade, make his apprenticeship a rebellious one and his father's stubborn determination a rock of difference between them. The pressure of circumstances forces Manuel to work steadily at his hated trade until his faculties become so benumbed that he believes himself to have grown reconciled to his life. But the budding of the lilacs and the flight of the swallows in early spring waken him from his lethargy soon after his father's death, and the old longings for freedom press upon him. He determines to subdue his energies to the earning of sufficient money with which to emigrate to America; but, on the occasion of a holiday, he meets a comrade who is carrying on a smuggling business, by proxy, and who invites him to join the active members of the band. Manuel's instinct for adventure urges him, and, the ethical question of smuggling being disposed of by ingenious arguments, he joins the party at their rendezvous, an inn in a lonely valley near the French border. The innkeeper has a daughter, Jonquille, a beautiful, high-spirited girl, who from her inspiring influence over the smugglers is called their captain. The two impetuous natures, Jonquille and Manuel, are first repelled by, then attracted to, each other. Their marriage soon follows, and Manuel's love and stirring, adventurous life fill the measure of his happiness. As winter advances, however, the sunless mountain gorge and his enforced inactivity leave room for the old spirit of restlessness. A fierce struggle now goes on between the conflicting forces of his nature, in which Jonquille's invalid brother plays a pathetic part. The end comes quickly and tragically, yet leaves no sense of violation.

New pastures are open to English readers in a series of Dutch novels, the first volume of which, Grein's 'Eline Vere,' has recently appeared. Heretofore the intellectual life of Holland has been more generally known through other forms of art, the rather heavy style of Dutch fiction having prevented its gaining a hold on popular regard outside of its own country. But a younger generation of writers has sprung up full of vigor, and impatient with the traditions of the older writers. Their work will be watched with interest,

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as it will reflect, necessarily, the good and evil of the modern spirit. The present volume is steeped in modern realism. The influence of heredity and environment in shaping character and affecting destiny is vividly shown. Indeed, so skilfully is this done, and so penetrating is the atmosphere of doom, that a feeling of leaden despair settles down upon the reader, and he wonders if the healthy vigor and steadfast purpose supposed to characterize the Dutch were not, after all, a myth. But the life depicted in 'Eline Vere' is the fashionable life of The Hague, as aimless and enervating and colorless there as elsewhere, yet flaming up fitfully at times with a lurid light. The two brief chapters depicting rural scenes glow with the soft beauty of Dutch landscapes, and awaken the hope that the succeeding volumes will give us pictures of brighter phases of Hollandish life, with a more distinctive national coloring. Mr. Edmund Gosse furnishes an introduction to the volume, but presumably has not had editorial oversight, as very crude errors of translation are left uncorrected.

'San Salvador' describes not only a castle in Spain, but a whole community as well; and an ideal community, as befits that land of dreams. It is, doubtless, the old Adam in human nature, but it is nevertheless a fact that fiction having for its motive the picturing of ideal communities is apt to pall upon the taste. To palates accustomed to the highly seasoned food furnished by tales of modern society, in which doughty deeds are performed in fields of finance and politics, the simple annals of a social state where plain living and high thinking prevail naturally seem insipid. But 'San Salvador' is so daintily wrought out that it ought to please even those who read merely to experience a pleasurable sensation. The conception is a bold one, the original members of this ideal state having been social outcasts; but the happy results that have followed the application of certain new methods in the treatment of criminals brings this idea within the bounds of possibility. Throughout the whole, the poetry and prose of life are so interwoven as to form a fabric of most harmonious coloring, and so beautiful a love-story is threaded through that the love-making of the ordinary novel seems crude and commonplace by comparison. Once or twice the author comes dangerously near the dividing line between true and false sentiment, but, on the whole, she has managed a difficult subject well.

To those who are fond of gruesome tales the collection to which 'A Capillary Crime' gives its name will prove a rich feast. They are graphically written, and have such an air of probability about them that it makes one's flesh creep to read them. In 'A Capillary Crime' (perhaps the best of the collection) the law of capillary attraction is, by an ingeniously constructed plot, made an engine of destruction, and afterwards serves as a mute witness in a case of circumstantial evidence. Strangely enough, a case has recently been reported in which the action of a natural law under unusual, but somewhat similar, conditions brought about results as curious as those which Mr. Millet's imagination has depicted. In reading these stories one is impressed by the darker aspect of student life abroad, which even the brightness of the sunny days of Bohemia does not wholl light up.

GREEK LYRICS.

The Nemean Odes of Pindar. Edited, with Introduction and Notes, by J. B. Bury, M.A., Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin. Macmillan & Co.

Greek Lyric Poetry. A Complete Collection of the Surviving Passages from the Greek Song-writers. By George S. Farnell, M.A. Longmans, Green & Co.

THE novel feature of Mr. Bury's work is the extent to which he pushes a theory in regard to Pindar's use of certain echoes and "responsions" of words in successive strophes. That Pindar occasionally lays stress upon names and emphatic words has been noticed by many editors and is sufficiently clear to any careful reader. The exigencies of the dance movement and of music required a skilful accentuation of significant words or phrases—required that "high lights should be thrown on them," as M. Croiset puts it; and the result was very useful and practical in bringing out with distinctness for the ears of listeners the prominent thoughts of a poem in which not every word, perhaps, was caught during a first performance. The words were surely not slighted, in our operatic manner, during the performance of a triumphal ode—far from it; yet this would not exclude a judicious and cunning distribution of emphasis. So much is granted and insisted upon by Pindaric scholars generally. Mezger has gone a little further than this. He has pointed out that it is a practice of the poet to repeat some word, or a variation of it, in the same verse and foot of different strophes. This he takes to be partly a mnemonic device for the guidance of the chorus, partly a sign and guide to the course of the poet's thought. Mr. Bury, following Mezger, outdoes him. He finds "verbal echoes everywhere, independently of the metre." He believes that these echoes indicate the train of Pindar's thought, that they are one of the keys to his method of composition and to his interpretation. In one ode the word *brass* or *brazen* is repeated in each metrical system. "Brass lends itself," says Mr. Bury, "without constraint to the central idea of this hymn, as an emblem; for, associated with contention, and as a baser metal than gold, it could suggest the state of a mortal not yet deified, or of an athlete not yet an Olympic victor, such a victory being symbolized by gold elsewhere." In another ode, "the parts of the argument are connected by *golden* links"; in another, "silver has a special significance." Other poets, Mr. Bury thinks, use this device as well as Pindar. Sophocles, in the first ode of the "Oedipus Rex," rings the changes on *gold*, *golden*, and *brilliant;* and Mr. Bury illustrates his hypothesis by applying it, in detail, to the second stasimon of the "Agamemnon," supporting an emendation of Mr. Housman by the correspondences he discovers.

Curiously enough, the more Mr. Bury explains this powerful ode, the less one understands it. The unsuspected complexities of thought and language he discovers are neither felicitous nor enlightening, nor do they add to our conception of the genius of Aeschylus. We do not deny that such threads might be interwoven in the pattern of the Greek ode; but Mr. Bury is bound to show that if they really exist, they exist for some reasonable purpose. The quality of reasonableness, ἐπιείκεια, enters so largely into the workings of the Greek mind that it is hard to believe that Pindar permitted himself puerilities or mystical undermeanings and conceits. One can believe it of Dante, on his own confession and because it belonged to the spirit of his time. We believe that Mr. Bury's process, applied resolutely and ingeniously to almost any poem, might be made to yield similar results. In glancing over Gray's ode "On a Distant Prospect of Eton," we observe half-a-dozen echoes and "responsions" between the stanzas neither worse nor better than those of Mr. Bury's finding. In short, as Prof. Gildersleeve remarks, "the discovery of the recurrent word is not the end of all controversy—there are too many recurrent words." Some years ago Mr. Piazzi Smyth wrote a work on the great Pyramid, in which he proved that the proportions of the Pyramid in different places were intended to enshrine the value of π, the exact diameter of the earth, its distance from the sun, and various other scientific data. No one hears now of Mr. Smyth's speculations, which doubtless might have been evolved with the same laborious fancy out of the proportions of the Eiffel Tower. Now Mr. Bury's speculations remind us of Mr. Smyth's. But if his hypothesis is mainly such stuff as dreams are made of, what becomes of some of the emendations he has fortified by aid of it? In this matter his temper is daring, and one cannot always agree with his estimate of "certainty."

The notes of this edition are abundant, and often unnecessarily so; the translations, though worded with nicety and taste, are often superabundant. The introductions to the odes applying in detail Mr. Bury's favorite theory are painfully elaborate, and show what M. Croiset calls "la manie de tout expliquer." The vestibule overshadows the edifice. Somehow, for enjoying poetry, there is no way like reading it; for enjoying your rose, there is nothing like smelling and looking at it again and again.

It happens that we have touched first on Mr. Bury's faults. It would be a great injustice to speak of nothing but faults. His work shows many admirable qualities: enthusiasm, taste, literary skill, painstaking study of his author—we wish we could add, judgment. We should be sorry if the promised editions of the Pythian and the Olympian Odes, which will doubtless exemplify the good qualities we have enumerated, should pursue the same bizarre fancies which make the present edition somewhat untrustworthy.

Mr. Farnell's book fills a lacuna in English aids to the study of the classics. It presents all that can be called readable of the fragments of "melic" poetry, relegating to the appendix for purposes of reference those single words and half lines which are gathered in Bergk's complete collection, and omitting the Epinician odes of Pindar, which are accessible in their entirety in many special editions. The Elegiac and Gnomic poets are not included in the collection, because their poems are not "melic," that is, originally adapted for music. The apparatus, drawn with care and judgment from many sources and sufficiently full for the purposes of the student who is not a specialist, comprises dissertations on the dialects, the metres, and the development of Greek lyric poetry, biographies of the more important poets, and a body of notes which furnish all the explanations necessary for understanding of the text. The plain, business-like style, notwithstanding its occasional dryness and awkwardness, is satisfactory enough to the reader who has a healthy appetite for facts and prefers to be left sometimes to make his own reflections. The most obvious of these, as he runs his eye over the pages, is the thought of the ruin which has befallen this branch of literature among the Greeks—a ruin, indeed, approaching desolation. Of all the specimens here offered, not a single poem of

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the best age, except Sappho's famous ode, is complete. As Mr. Farnell puts it, the case is much the same as if in English we had lost all our songs from the days of Ben Jonson and Herrick and Suckling down to Shelley and Keats and Tennyson. From these fragments we can only guess dimly the merits of their authors—we should not be safe in basing any final judgment of Archilochus, or Sappho, or Alcæus, or Simonides, upon the passages that survive, brilliant and striking as some of them undoubtedly are. We must reinforce our judgment by the testimony of antiquity, and by the hints we derive from echoes of their style and manner in Horace and Catullus. A fragment of a poem does not bear witness of the workman so satisfactorily and surely as a fragment of a statue. Hence the necessity and usefulness of Mr. Farnell's critical and introductory essays.

Another curious fact in this connection is, that, long before the dawn of Athenian greatness in literature, Sparta was the nurse and patron of lyric poetry—the foster-nurse and the importer of a genius which she seems never to have originated to any great extent. The Lesbian school, on the other hand, was by far the most powerful and original fountain of this style of composition; and here again Mr. Farnell makes an instructive comparison between the period of Alcæus and the age of Elizabeth. The general ferment and activity, the commercial intercourse, the sight of strange lands, the love of adventure which sent the brother of Sappho to Egypt and the brother of Alcæus to the army of Nebuchadnezzar—all these causes may have inspired and stirred the Lesbian mind as they did the contemporaries of Shakspere. Certainly that school has for us a strong and natural interest, because, more than Pindar or Simonides, it was akin to the modern spirit—it struck that personal and "subjective" note which is the very essence of the modern conception of lyric poetry. In this respect, Alcæus and Sappho and Archilochus need no introduction and no commentary.

Mr. Farnell touches lightly on the ever interesting riddle of Sappho's personal history and character, about which he very sensibly draws no conclusion, not feeling called upon to decide whether she would now have been an acceptable guest at the Queen's drawing-room. In substance, this was the question which agitated the breasts of Welcker and Col. Mure in the hot discussion to which Mr. Farnell alludes, and of which just one word may be said, viz., that both scholars were in the wrong. The amiable chivalry of the one and the cynicism of the other were equally misplaced, for each was applying a standard and a code of morals which Sappho and her contemporaries would neither have recognized nor understood. Apropos of this controversy, Mr. Farnell would have done well to note that the reading κοὐκ ἐθέλοισα in the first ode is Bergk's own, and to write Maximus Tyrius instead of "Maxim. Tyrannus" and "Max. Tyrann" (pp. 151 and 152).

In the dissertation on "Sapphics Greek and Horatian," Mr. Farnell discusses the peculiar cæsura which Horace adopted after the fifth syllable, as in

"Jam satis terris nivis atque dirae."

Almost all his earlier Sapphics are of this type—the type which, by the way, gave rise to the bastard rhythm of Canning's "Knife-Grinder." The later odes follow oftener the rapid and passionate movement of the normal Sapphic verse; and this rhythm Mr. Swinburne, with his usual skill and delicacy of ear, has reproduced, as far as our language permits, in one of his 'Songs before Sunrise,' entitled "Sapphics."

Skating. By F. M. Heathcote and Others. [Badminton Library.] Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1892.

If the word skate was borrowed from the Dutch *schaats*, it is tolerably certain that the art of skating is not a Dutch invention. We are told in the chronicles that iron runners were attached to a species of snow-shoes by the early inhabitants of Norway and Sweden, and that, before the iron age, bones were used for the same purpose, as is shown by some well-worn specimens in the British Museum; and it is entirely probable that the art of skating was introduced into England by the Anglo-Saxons or the Danes. Certain it is that it was a common amusement as early as the twelfth century, and that it became fashionable among the upper classes after the Restoration, when the Duke of Monmouth, who had learned to skate in Holland, disported himself on the ice in St. James's Park. The first roller-skates were made by a Belgian named Joseph Merlin, who visited England in 1760. They were probably very crude machines, and nearly caused the death of the inventor, who boldly essayed to use them at a masquerade, with disastrous results to himself and Mrs. Cornelly's furniture. At intervals during the next hundred years, improvements were attempted, but it was not till 1863 that Mr. Plimpton patented the roller-skate of to-day, which is available for both speed and figure-skating. The craze for roller-skating which existed a few years ago has largely died out, but there is much to be said in favor of this sport; and any one who learns to skate figures on rollers will find it comparatively easy to execute the same figures on the ice.

Ice-skating consists of two quite distinct parts, namely, figure-skating and speed-skating. The latter, in these days of keen competition, requires youth, great natural powers of endurance, and systematic training; but one great merit of figure-skating is that it is quite within the reach of those who have arrived at that uncertain period of life which we call middle age, and, moreover, while it is of course an advantage to have acquired some facility in boyhood, much may be done by those who make their first start in later years. As in certain other sports, individual physical peculiarities do not preclude a high degree of success, and in fact it may be said that no two skaters execute a figure in precisely the same style. But the enthusiast who takes up figure-skating after reaching years of discretion should bear in mind that certain figures are peculiarly liable to lead to falls. It is recorded of one gentleman that, after several unsuccessful attempts to master the inside back three, involving a turn from the inner edge back to the outer edge forward, he declared he would give up skating because it was too *sedentary* an occupation. On the other hand, to any one who has strong ankles and the natural instinct of balancing himself, almost anything in figure-skating is not only possible but easy, and the effect of these performances on the unsophisticated beholder is sometimes remarkable. An Irish peasant woman, watching a lady who had learned in Canada how to skate that most bewitching of all figures, the "grapevine," was heard to remark: "Sure, now, and I think the Devil is in her feet, God bless her!" The account of figure-skating given by Mr. Witham is admirably illustrated by diagrams, and leaves nothing to be desired. The reader may, perhaps, take exception to the statement that "Great Britain is far in advance of any other nation in combined figure-skating," and if he has had any experience of combined figure-skating in this country or Canada, he will make due allowance for what Mr. Herbert Spencer calls the "patriotic bias," the existence of which in other volumes of this series has been already pointed out.

Coming to the second branch of the sport, speed-skating, it is interesting to note that as long ago as in 1821 a mile was skated for a wager in 2 minutes and 53 seconds, which is the present world's record; but in the case in question the skater was allowed a flying start, which would make a difference of at least ten seconds. The very remarkable performances of Mr. J. F. Donoghue of Newburgh (not Newbury, as here stated) are of necessity referred to by Mr. Tebbutt, but his marked superiority to all English and European amateurs is somewhat grudgingly admitted. The facts, however, speak for themselves. Not only does he hold the English record at 1½ miles (4 minutes, 46 seconds), having beaten James Smart's professional record of 4 minutes 52 1-5 seconds, but he also holds the world's records at 2, 3, and 5 miles.

In order to complete the cycle of ice sports, this volume contains an interesting account of curling, ice-boating, tobogganing, and bandy. On the whole, the work has been admirably done, and the illustrations are quite above the average of English performance.

Little Brothers of the Air. By Olive Thorne Miller. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1892.

Wood Notes Wild: Notations of Bird Music. By Simeon Pease Cheney. Collected and arranged with appendix, notes, bibliography, and general index by John Vance Cheney. Boston: Lee & Shepard. 1892.

Mrs. Miller's work might be appropriately termed the history of the nursery life of the birds. She has observed with great care the home life and family manners of many of the birds one meets with commonly in the summer in the New England States, and she tells what she has seen in a very entertaining way. The great charm of the book, however, lies not in the facts observed, but in the interpretation put upon those facts. The actions of the birds are measured by human standards, and the various emotions of astonishment, perplexity, or joy which men and women would feel if confronted by the difficulties, duties, and pleasures that cross the paths of the different "little brothers," are so skilfully attributed to the birds as to make their brotherhood with human beings seem very real, and to make you wonder why you never interpreted the actions of the "little kings" and "the comical crow baby" in the same way.

'Wood Notes Wild' was intended for the young people of New England, as the editor tells us in the preface, and it is an attempt, not wholly successful, to set forth in print the rhythm and melody of the music of the birds. The simpler and more regular songs are well represented, and bring up the familiar calls very distinctly. This can hardly be said, however, of the complicated and rollicking melody of many of the birds whose songs are recorded in the volume. Indeed, it is difficult to see how the bubbling music of the bobolink, the purple finch, and others that might be mentioned, could be accurately set down by any

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system of notation that we possess. Mr. Cheney's style is quaint and pleasing. He wrote with the combined enthusiasm of a musician and a lover of nature. But one cannot help regretting that he did not give us more about the manners and customs of the birds as they sing, instead of confining himself so closely to the songs themselves.

No pains have been spared, apparently, to make the book a complete record of what has been done in the investigation of the music of the birds, and herein consists its greatest value. There is a voluminous appendix, which is to a considerable extent a commentary upon what others have said of the songs of birds, together with the author's own ideas of the scope of his chosen field, all of which is expressed in a vigorous and animated way. Finally there is a helpful bibliography for any one disposed to pursue further the fascinating but difficult study of bird music.

Electric-Light Cables and the Distribution of Electricity. By Stuart A. Russell. London: Whittaker.

MR. RUSSELL'S small volume is intended for the use of practical electricians, but contains a great deal of matter of quite general interest now that the applications of electricity are becoming subjects of ordinary conversation. It treats only of the distribution of electricity, a subject now constituting almost a special branch of science, the importance of which may be imagined when we reflect that at this very time not only is it proposed to transmit power from Niagara Falls to Chicago for the Exhibition of 1893, but the details of the methods by which this can be done are being worked out, and the problem will certainly be solved. The subject of distribution is here regarded both from the purely scientific point of view and in the light of actual experience. The development of the subject is first treated historically. Then we have a chapter on the material of conductors, and this is followed by others in which gradually all the very numerous details of the several methods of distribution are discussed. Probably the chapters relating to underground lines will excite the most general interest, in consequence of the disfigurement of the streets of cities and towns by the long rows of hideous telegraph, telephone, and electric-light poles. Constant reference is made to the work of American electricians. The book is very interesting and valuable, and forms not the least of the important series of electrical manuals now in process of publication.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Alger, W. R. The Sources of Consolation in Human Life. Boston: Roberts Bros. $1.50.
Austen, Jane. Pride and Prejudice. 2 vols. Boston: Roberts Bros. $2.50.
Barrie, J. M. Auld Licht Idylls. M. J. Ivers & Co. 25 cents.
Beard, Dan. Moonlight and Six Feet of Romance. Charles L. Webster & Co.
Calmire. Macmillan. $1.50.
Campbell, W. W. A Handbook of Practical Astronomy. Ann Arbor, Mich.: *Register* Publishing Co. $1.50.
Churchill, Lord R. S. Men, Mines and Animals in South Africa. Appletons.
Dana, Prof. E. S. Descriptive Mineralogy. John Wiley & Sons. $12.50.
Duplessis, Georges. Les Audran. [Les Artistes Célèbres.] Paris: Librairie de l'Art; New York: Macmillan.
Hinsdale, Prof. B. A. The American Government, National and State. Ann Arbor, Mich.: *Register* Publishing Co. $1.50.
Hussey, Prof. W. J. Logarithmic and Other Mathematical Tables. 2d ed. Ann Arbor, Mich.: *Register* Publishing Co. $1.
Jannet, Prof. Claudio. Le Capital, la Spéculation et la Finance au XIXe Siècle. Paris: Librairie Plon.
Landon, M. D. Thirty Years of Wit, etc. Cassell. 50 cents.
Maxwell, J. C. A Treatise on Electricity and Magnetism. 3d ed. 2 vols. Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan. $8.
McClure, A. K. Abraham Lincoln and Men of War Times. Philadelphia: *Times* Publishing Co. $2.
Miller, Rev. O. D. Har-Moad; or, The Mountain of the Assembly. North Adams, Mass.: Stephen M. Whipple.
Murray, George. Poems. New York: The Author.
Naegeli, Prof. Carl, and Schwendener, Prof. S. The Microscope in Theory and Practice. 2d ed. Macmillan. $2.60.
Netto, Prof. E. The Theory of Substitutions and its Applications to Algebra. Ann Arbor: *Register* Publishing Co. $3.
Parkman, Francis. A Half-Century of Conflict. 2 vols. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. $5.
Payne, Prof. Joseph. Lectures on the History of Education, with a Visit to German Schools. Longmans, Green & Co. $2.50.
Sharp, W. Flower o' the Vine, Romantic Ballads, and Sospiri di Roma. Charles L. Webster & Co. $1.50.
Shoemaker, Mrs. J. W. Delsartean Pantomimes. Philadelphia: Penn Publishing Co. $1.25.
Skeat, Prof. W. W. A Primer of English Etymology. Oxford: Clarendon Press; New York: Macmillan. 50 cents.
Slosson, Mrs. Annie T. The Heresy of Mehetabel Clark. Harpers.
Smith, F. C. Introduction to Commercial German. Macmillan. $1.
Smith, F. Hopkinson. A Day at Laguerre's, and Other Days. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $1.25.
Spalding, Susan M. The Wings of Icarus. Boston: Roberts Bros. $1.25.
Stearns, Rev. L. F. Henry Boynton Smith. [American Religious Leaders.] Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $1.25.
Sybel, H. von. The Founding of the German Empire. Vols. III., IV. and V. Thomas Y. Crowell & Co.
The Last Words of Thomas Carlyle. Appletons.
Winter, W. Shadows of the Stage. Macmillan. 75 cents.

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